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CORN-BILL.

ON the 8th of April laſt, Sir Adam Ferguſſon made a motion in the Houſe of Commons, for leave to bring in a bill to amend and render more effectual ſo much of two acts 13° and 14° Geo. III. as relates to the regulating the importation and exportation of corn in Scotland: which was agreed to; and Sir Adam, the Lord Advocate, and Ld Frederick Campbell, were ordered to prepare and bring it in. —The bill was accordingly preſented, and ſome procedure had upon it; but was afterwards poſtponed till next ſeſſion. Mean time copies of the bill were circulated, and county and borough meetings were held to conſider of it.

So early as the 25th of April, while the bill was in dependence, a meeting of the merchants, traders, and principal manufacturers, of Glaſgow, called by the Lord Provoſt, was held in the New Council-hall of that city, on this ſubject. —A Memorial in name of the reſpectable gentlemen ſo met, dated, *Council chamber, Glaſgow, May* 2. 1777, was laid before the committee of the convention of royal boroughs; by whom it was ordered to be printed, and copies of it tranſmitted to all the members of parliament for Scotland, and alſo to the royal boroughs, and manufacturing towns.—We inſert it entire, viz.

"BEFORE the union of the two kingdoms, the privy council of Scotland was veſted with the power of ſuſpending the

the laws prohibiting the importation of victual into Scotland in time of dearth and ſcarcity; particularly of oatmeal, when it exceeded 8 l. Scots, or 13 s. 4 d. Sterling per boll.

But the powers of the privy council of Scotland being taken away by an act 6° Ann. the prohibitory laws could not be ſuſpended; therefore an act was paſſed 14° Geo. II. *for licenſing the importation of victual from Ireland, and other parts beyond the ſeas, into Scotland, in time of dearth and ſcarcity*; by which the judges of the court of ſeſſion, juſticiary, and exchequer, in Scotland, were veſted with the power of ſuſpending the ſaid prohibitory laws, at any time, when the current prices of victual in the *county and city of Edinburgh* did exceed the rates and prices therein mentioned; particularly, when oatmeal exceeded 13 s. 4 d. Sterling per boll, weighing eight ſtones Troys.

Before paſſing this act, the price of oatmeal, which, from the union to that time, had generally run from 10 s. 8 d. to 12 s. Sterling per boll, did, in the year 1740, riſe to the enormous price of 25 s. 4 d. Sterling per boll. And though it is confeſſed, that the powers given by that act, of ſuſpending the former prohibitory laws, were of great advantage to Scotland; yet, in many reſpects, the law was always conſidered as grievous: 1. Becauſe the obtaining a licence to import was attended with conſiderable expence and delay; 2. That the importation was regulated by the prices of corn in the county and city of Edinburgh, where the prices of corn were generally about a fifth part lower than in Glaſgow, and other trading and manufacturing towns in the weſt of Scotland; 3. It was required, as a neceſſary qualification, that the perſons who were to give evidence as to the prices of corn ſhould be in poſſeſſion of a landed eſtate of 400 l. Scots *per ann.* of valued rent; 4. The judges were impowered, once in every thirty days from the time that ſuch ſuſpenſion had taken effect, to take off ſuch ſuſpenſion, in caſe the prices did not then exceed the prices mentioned in the act; which, from the ſhortneſs of the time, was in ſome degree equal to a prohibition to import corn from a foreign country, and even from Ireland.

The grievances, however, under which Scotland has ſo long laboured, were in ſome degree alleviated by many temporary ſtatutes, paſſed during theſe laſt twenty years, permitting the importation of corn duty-free. But theſe laws not having fully anſwered the wiſe intentions of the legiſlature, his Majeſty was graciouſly pleaſed to recommend to both houſes of parliament, to take into conſideration the high price of proviſions, and, as far as human wiſdom could go, to apply ſuch remedies as might alleviate the diſtreſſes of the poor. [xxxiv. 632.]

In conſequence of this recommendation, an act was made 13° Geo. III. *to regulate the importation and exportation of corn*; by which it is enacted, that, from and after the 1ſt of January 1774, all cuſtoms and duties formerly paid reſpectively on wheat, flour, rye, peaſe, beans, barley, bear, bigg, and oats, imported into G. Britain, are repealed; and, in lieu of the former duties, very ſmall duties are impoſed during the continuance of the reſpective prices therein mentioned; particularly, whenever the price of middling Britiſh wheat, at the ports and places where wheat ſhall be imported into Britain, ſhall appear, according to the methods directed by law for aſcertaining the rates and prices of corn and grain imported, *to be at, or above* 48 s. per quarter, that then only a duty of 6 d. per quarter ſhall be laid upon all wheat; or whenever the price of middling Britiſh oats ſhall, in like manner, appear *to be at, or above*, 16 s. per quarter, that then a duty of 2 d. per quarter ſhall be laid upon all oats.

By this act it is alſo declared lawful to import oatmeal into any port or place in Scotland where the price of oatmeal *does exceed* the price of 16 s. per boll, weighing eight ſtones Troys.

By this act the powers formerly veſted in the judges of the courts of ſeſſion, juſticiary, and exchequer, are declared to ceaſe and determine; and that thereafter the ſheriff or ſteward deputes of the ſeveral ſhires or ſtewartries in Scotland, within which there are ports and places for the importation and exportation of goods and merchandiſes, or their ſubſtitutes, ſhould, and they are thereby authoriſed and required, four times every year, that is to ſay, upon the firſt day of November, firſt day of February, firſt day of May, and firſt day of Auguſt, or as ſoon after as may be, to ſummon and convene before them, two or more honeſt and ſubſtantial perſons, and upon their oaths, and by ſuch other ways and

means

means as ſhall ſeem to them proper and neceſſary, to examine, inquire into, and determine, the common market-prices of middling Britiſh corn and grain, and oatmeal, as the ſame may be bought in their reſpective counties or ſtewartries, and to fix and aſcertain the ſame by proper acts and determinations.

The memorialiſts, and all Scotland, were happy to find themſelves in all reſpects, except thoſe to be afterwards noticed, treated on an equal footing with his Majeſty's happy ſubjects in England. They were relieved from the former tedious and expenſive mode of application for obtaining a licence to import; the importation is regulated according to the rates and prices of corn in each county, without regard to the county or city of Edinburgh; the ports muſt remain open for three months; and any honeſt or ſubſtantial perſon is declared to be a legal evidence, though he is not poſſeſſed of a landed eſtate of 400 l. Scots *per ann.* of valued rent.

In thoſe reſpects they felt the bleſſings of Engliſh liberty; but with reſpect to the article of oatmeal, the bread of by far the greateſt part of the inhabitants of Scotland, they were ſtruck with aſtoniſhment to find the import-price raiſed one fifth higher than formerly; that is, from 13 s. 4 d. to 16 s. per boll, contrary to the humane recommendation of his Majeſty; whereby the diſtreſſes of the poor, in place of being alleviated, were greatly increaſed; whilſt, at the ſame time, the import-rate of wheat and wheat flour, the bread of England, was reduced two fifth-parts; that is to ſay, from 4 l. per quarter to 48 s. per quarter.

They felt, with indignation, that more regard was ſhown to the *horſes* of England than to the *men* of Scotland; 13 s. 4 d. per boll of oatmeal, not 16 s. being the neareſt correſponding price to 16 s. per quarter for oats; and, as if the face of the poor of Scotland had not been effectually grinded, the import-price of oatmeal muſt *exceed*, whilſt it is ſufficient that the import price of oats is *at, or above*, the rate preſcribed.

In another reſpect, Scotland, in this law, was not treated on an equal footing with England: for though wheat and all other grain may be imported when the duties not repealed by this act ſhall be due, and may be landed without payment of duties, and warehouſed under the joint locks of the king and the importer, and again re-exported; yet the benefit of thoſe ſalutary proviſions are not extended to oatmeal.

This law having paſſed through both houſes of parliament before the memorialiſts had received ſufficient information concerning it, they, and almoſt all the boroughs in Scotland, did, in the then next ſeſſion of parliament, preſent a humble petition to the Houſe of Commons, praying, that the import-rate of oatmeal might be reduced to 13 s. 4 d. per boll, as formerly; and to be allowed the liberty of warehouſing oatmeal in the ſame manner as other grain. But the Honourable Houſe, not having a ſufficient trial of a new law ſo lately paſſed, were pleaſed to refuſe the deſire of their petition.

At a time when the memorialiſts were intending again humbly to remonſtrate to parliament for redreſs of the grievances already noticed, they have ſeen, with equal concern and aſtoniſhment, leave given to bring in a bill to amend and render more effectual two acts 13° & 14° Geo. III. in ſo far as relates to the regulating the importation and exportation of corn in that part of G. Britain called Scotland.

By this bill it is propoſed, that the power of regulating the importation and exportation of corn ſhall again be veſted in the judges of the courts of ſeſſion and exchequer, in the ſame manner as they were authoriſed by the act 14° Geo. II.: the ſame tedious and expenſive mode of application for a licence to import is to be again introduced; the import-rate is to be determined according to the market prices in the county and city of Edinburgh; the evidence of perſons of landed eſtate alone are to be held as good evidence; and it ſeems to be intended that the ports may be ſhut in thirty days after a licence is granted for importation; and, to theſe hardſhips and inconveniencies, already long felt and complained of, is ſuperadded a new one, by which the importation of oats is regulated by the price of oatmeal.

It is with great grief that the memorialiſts obſerve an attempt made to ſeparate Scotland from England in a law of all others the moſt important. Subjects of the ſame king, and under the ſame legiſlature, they conſider it as their glory, and as the beſt ſecurity for their liberties, to enjoy the benefit of the ſame laws which have rendered England the hap-

pied and the moſt flouriſhing country in the world. Truſting to be ſheltered under the wings of Engliſh liberty, they demand it as their right and privilege to be treated on an equal footing with the King's Engliſh ſubjects.

There is no reaſon in juſtice or expediency for making the prices at Edinburgh the rule for regulating the importation for *all* Scotland. Edinburgh is ſituated in the heart of the richeſt corn-country in Scotland; Glaſgow in the pooreſt: and whilſt the one city may be bleſſed with plenty, the other may be almoſt reduced to a ſtarving condition. Famine may be the fate of Argyleſhire. And as every county in England has the valuable privilege of being regulated in the importation of corn by the prices in each county, they humbly hope the ſame liberty will not be denied to the counties of Scotland.

It was not to be expected that the old mode of aſcertaining the prices would have been revived, after the legiſlature had declared, that it had been found to be attended with great inconvenience, and was inconſiſtent with the principle of the late act: and now this bill ſets out with declaring, that the late act had been found liable to many inconveniencies, and that it hath been found, by experience, that taking a proof of the prices of grain at Edinburgh, in order to regulate the importation and exportation at all the ports in Scotland, is preferable to the mode eſtabliſhed by the laſt act.

The memorialiſts are at a loſs to reconcile declarations ſo oppoſite to one another: they have not ſeen, nor have they heard of any inconveniencies ariſing from the late act, other than that the import-price of oatmeal was raiſed a fifth higher than formerly, and that they were denied the liberty of warehouſing it.

It cannot be conſidered as a juſt ground of complaint againſt the late act, that it has pleaſed God to bleſs G. Britain and Ireland with greater plenty for theſe two laſt than in the preceding eighteen years; and that the prices of corn, in conſequence of that plenty, have been reduced.—Though this may appear a misfortune to men of narrow notions, and illiberal views, yet to every perſon who has a wiſh for the intereſt and proſperity of his country, it muſt be obvious, that the riches of a country conſiſt in the quantity of its produce, not in the price at which it is ſold.—The ſame number of bolls of oatmeal, or other grain, will maintain the ſame number of perſons, whether the price it is ſold for is 10 s. or 16 s. per boll, and the ſame quantity will be produced.—The evident intention of this bill is to raiſe the prices of corn every year in which an importation becomes neceſſary; which is, in effect, laying a grievous tax on the conſumers, to be put in the pockets of a few landed men to the extent of the whole produce, and into thoſe of foreigners to the extent of the quantity imported.

The legiſlature have wiſely allowed the perpetual importation of beef, pork, butter, and cheeſe, from Ireland into Britain; and if that regulation is a ſalutary one to both countries, the memorialiſts are at a loſs to diſcover the principle upon which it is not extended to corn.—If it ſhall be ſaid, that the Iriſh do not pay the ſame high taxes as the Britiſh do, and that therefore they ought not to be allowed the benefit of the Britiſh market, in competition with the Britiſh landed intereſt; it is aſked, upon what principle the importation of Iriſh linens is allowed, in competition with Britiſh manufactures? But the memorialiſts would not here wiſh to be underſtood to expreſs their diſapprobation of the liberty of importing Iriſh linens.

The memorialiſts beg leave to call the attention of all ranks of men to this important obſervation, That whenever proviſions are plenty and cheap, manufactures flouriſh: Whenever they are ſcarce and dear, manufactures decay. And the true cauſe of the preſent flouriſhing ſtate of manufactures, in every part of Britain, is the plenty and cheaper price of proviſions, with which the kingdom has been bleſſed for theſe two laſt years, notwithſtanding one great ſource of its conſumption being dried up by the unhappy war with its colonies.—That man muſt be dead to the feelings of humanity who would wiſh to add to the calamities of war, dear proviſions, and the conſequent decay of manufactures.

It is indeed of little importance to the commercial and manufacturing intereſt of Britain, what is the price of proviſions, ſo be it Britain can be ſupplied with proviſions on the ſame, or nearly the ſame, terms with the other nations in Europe who are her competitors in trade. Her natural advantages, her happy conſtitution, her ſuperior ſkill and induſtry, will ever enable her to carry on her

her trade and manufactures, in competition with her rivals, when ſhe is ſupplied with proviſions on a level with other countries, with the carriage and riſk of tranſportation from the foreign country added to it; and this end may, at all times, be attained, by a law allowing the free importation of proviſions, or at a low limited price.—This is the true and the natural price which the landed man is intitled to receive, and the manufacturer is able to pay.

After having thus ſtated the two great objections to this bill, viz. the import-rate of oatmeal being raiſed above 13s. 4d. per boll, and the market-price of Edinburgh being the rate for all Scotland, the other objections to the preſent bill, which have been already mentioned, ſhall be again juſt brought under view.

1. That the mode of application to the courts of ſeſſion and exchequer is tedious and expenſive, and is not equal to the mode preſcribed by the preſent law, by which the ſheriffs of the reſpective counties are authoriſed and required to aſcertain the prices of corn, at four ſtated times in the year, without the neceſſity of any application being made to them for that purpoſe.

2. The qualification of a witneſs to be poſſeſſed of a landed eſtate of 400 l. Scots *per ann.* of valued rent, is as abſurd as it is unjuſt; for any honeſt or ſubſtantial perſon is as credible and as good an evidence as a landed man.

3. The time limited for opening the ports to thirty days, is evidently too ſhort for importing corn from Ireland, and more ſo from other foreign countries.—May the time limited to three months, as the law ſtands at preſent, is by much too ſhort: but the memorialiſts will not complain when they are treated on an equality with Engliſhmen.

Laſtly, The propoſal to regulate the importation of oats by oatmeal is cruel and oppreſſive, and is creating an invidious diſtinction betwixt England and Scotland; for the price of oatmeal in Scotland may be under 16 s. per boll, when the price of a quarter of oats may be 18 or 19 s.; ſo that oats, which may be imported into England when the price is 16 s. per quarter, cannot be imported into Scotland until the price is 2 or 3 s. higher than in England. When the late act was depending in parliament, a Scotch member propoſed, that the import-price of a quarter of oats ſhould be rated at 18 s. It was ſhrewdly ſaid by an Engliſh member of parliament, "No, Sir, we will not ſtarve our manufacturers; but you may do with yours as you pleaſe."—It would have been noble if he had ſaid, We will neither ſtarve our manufacturers, nor will a Britiſh Houſe of Commons permit you to ſtarve yours.

The memorialiſts ſhall only further obſerve, that if any nominal diſtinction was juſtifiable in the law betwixt England and Scotland, it ought to have been allowed in favour of the latter in the article of wheat; for it is a well-known fact, that a quarter of wheat in Scotland is of inferior quality to the wheat of the ſouthern parts of England by 5 s. per quarter; ſo that, in ſtrict juſtice, the import price of wheat ought to have been rated at 5 s. per quarter lower in Scotland than in England. But the memorialiſts will not complain where there is even an appearance of their being treated on an equal footing with his Majeſty's ſubjects in England.

Upon the whole, the memorialiſts are perfectly ſatisfied with the law as it ſtands at preſent, provided amendments be made to reduce the import-rate of oatmeal to 13 s. 4 d. per boll, as formerly, and that liberty be given to warehouſe and re-export oatmeal, under the ſame reſtrictions and regulations as other grain; nor have they any objection to the powers now veſted in the ſheriffs of Scotland being transferred to the quarter-ſeſſions, by which the law of Scotland will be more nearly aſſimilated to that of England."

Extracts from a pamphlet, intitled, *Eſſay on the Corn-Laws; to evince, on the moſt indubitable ground, in oppoſition to the inflammatory Memorial for the merchants, traders, and manufacturers of Glaſgow, the equity and expediency of prohibiting the importation of oats or oatmeal, unleſs the price of the latter ſhall be at, or above, 16 s. per boll.* Signed, *A Friend to Agriculture, Trade, and Manufactures.*

The Glaſgow merchants, &c. "are perfectly ſatisfied with the law as it ſtands at preſent, provided amendments be made to reduce the import-rate of oatmeal to 13 s. 4 d. per boll, as formerly." The ſingle point in iſſue then is, Whether the import-rate of oatmeal ought to be 13 s. 4 d. or 16 s. per boll?

By the act 13° Geo. III. one rule was eſtabliſhed

eſtabliſhed with regard to the import-rate of oats, another with regard to that of oatmeal; which muſt have happened through inadvertency. It is oatmeal, and not oats, that is the food of the people in Scotland in general; therefore, if oats and oatmeal ſhall be allowed to be imported whenever oatmeal riſes to ſuch a price as to render importation proper, it is impoſſible there can be any ground of complaint againſt the bill on this account. The ſingle queſtion therefore is, Whether the importation of oats and oatmeal ſhould be prohibited till the price is 16 s. per boll? or whether it ſhould be allowed when it comes to 13 s. 4 d.? which is what the Glaſgow merchants, &c. contend for. If it be reaſonable, when the riches of a country are greatly increaſed, that the proprietors of land ſhould participate the effects thereof, as well as the other citizens, (and it does not occur how this can be denied), it follows neceſſarily, that the prices of grain ought not to be always the ſame. If this was to be the caſe, the landed men would have reaſon to grieve, in place of rejoicing, at the proſperity of their country; they would be no better than mere beaſts of burden to the trading and manufacturing parts of this kingdom; the more the latter flouriſhed, the more hard would be the condition of the former. Whilſt the prices of other things increaſed in proportion to the riches of the country, grain, the commodity, or manufacture, or what you pleaſe to call it, by which they live, would always continue the ſame; and thus theſe gentlemen, amidſt the greateſt proſperity of their fellow-citizens, would every day be becoming more poor; becauſe, whilſt their income continued the ſame, they would have higher wages to pay their ſervants, and higher prices to give for all the commodities they wanted.

If it be unreaſonable, that the price of victual ſhould continue eternally the ſame, it is undeniable, that the alteration by 13° Geo. III. and as amended by the bill in queſtion, is highly equitable; for, upwards of theſe hundred years paſt, the import-rate of oatmeal has never been leſs than 13 s. 4 d. per boll; and it muſt follow, that thoſe who contend, the import-rate ought not to have been augmented, argue very unfairly.

By an act Car. II. in 1672, ſevere penalties are enacted againſt the importers of victual from Ireland into Scotland; becauſe, notwithſtanding of the importation of victual having been diſcharged by many former acts, "ſundry perſons, preferring their own private intereſt to their obedience to the law, and the good of the kingdom, have adventured to import divers quantities of victual from Ireland, and had vended and ſold the ſame in this kingdom; whereby the *ſale of corns growing within this kingdom, had been ſtopped, and much money had been unwarrantably carried out of the kingdom.*"

At the ſame time his Majeſty's Privy Council was authoriſed "to allow importation of victual for ſuch time as they ſhall think fit, the price of victual within the kingdom for the time being at eight pounds the boll of bear and meal, and ten pounds wheat, and above." By another act, in 1703, the aforeſaid act 1672 was ratified and approved, with a very few amendments; and it was thereby enacted, "That when, by reaſon of dearth, the prices of victual exceed the rates after mentioned, viz. wheat, twelve pounds the boll; bear, barley, malt, and meal, eight pounds per boll; and oats and peaſe, ſix pounds per boll; — the Lords of her Majeſty's Privy Council ſhall have power, after due trial by them taken, to ſuſpend and diſcharge the execution of the ſaid prohibitory act, for ſuch ſpace and time as the exigence of the ſaid dearth ſhall require, and no longer."

From the above it appears, that, upwards of a hundred years ago, the import-rate of oatmeal was 13 s. 4 d. per boll; and even when the meal came to this price, the Lords of the Privy Council were not ordained to allow the importation of meal; they were only authoriſed to do ſo if they judged it proper. Such ſeems to be the plain meaning of theſe acts. On this account it is indiſputable, that if the deſire of the merchants, &c. of Glaſgow was to be complied with, and the import-rate of oatmeal fixed at 13 s. 4 d. per boll, or eight pounds Scots, and a judge or judges ordained to open the ports when this was the caſe; the ſituation of landholders would be worſe now than it was a hundred years ſince, abſtracting from the very great difference of the times, in point of riches.

By an act in 1707, the powers of the privy council in Scotland having been taken away, the prohibitory laws againſt the importation of victual could not be ſuſpended; and in this ſituation matters

continued

continued during the ſpace of thirty-four years; in all which time, the importation of victual into Scotland was abſolutely ſtopped; and yet, what is very remarkable, no inconvenience was found to ariſe therefrom, till 1740, when there was a great dearth from the badneſs of the crop, the oatmeal having riſen to upwards of 25 s. per boll. — No one could deny, that in ſuch circumſtances the prohibitory laws againſt importation ſhould be ſuſpended. Therefore in 1741 an act was paſſed, veſting the courts of ſeſſion, juſticiary, and exchequer, with the ſame powers the privy council formerly had in Scotland.

This ſeems to have been the only object of the law. Every one muſt have been ſenſible of the propriety of opening the ports in Scotland in the time of ſo great a dearth; and further the legiſlators do not ſeem to have troubled themſelves about the matter: As the privy council was authoriſed to allow importation when the price of oatmeal was at or above 13 s. 4 d. per boll, the court of ſeſſion, &c. were impowered to do the ſame when the prices came this length.

From the above ſtate of facts it is incontrovertible, that, upwards of a hundred years ſince, even the privy council could not allow the importation of oats or oatmeal unleſs the price of oatmeal roſe to 13 s. 4 d. per boll. When this is conſidered, what is propoſed by the bill in queſtion, viz. that neither oats nor oatmeal ſhall be allowed to be imported into Scotland, unleſs it is proved, that the price of oatmeal is at or above 16 s. per boll, muſt appear exceedingly moderate, and in every reſpect equitable. The riſe propoſed is only one fifth more than it was a hundred and five years ago. The merchants of Glaſgow, therefore, muſt have ſeen matters with a jaundiced eye, when they objected to ſuch a propoſal. If it be equitable, that the import-rate of oatmeal ſhould be reduced to the ſame ſtandard it was at a hundred years ſince, it muſt be juſt, that the import-rate of all the other grains ſhould be in the like manner reduced. This, however, they do not pretend to; on the contrary, it is obſerved above, that they will be perfectly ſatisfied with the law as it now ſtands, provided amendments be made to reduce the import-rate of oatmeal to 13 s. 4 d. per boll, &c. In 1672, it was reckoned as expenſive to raiſe oats that would produce a boll of meal, as it was to raiſe a boll of bear; and therefore the import-rate of the one and other was made eight pounds Scots, or 13 s. 4 d. per boll. When they judged ſo, they judged rightly; becauſe, we know, in our days it is ſtill the ſame. By the law, however, as it now ſtands, the import-rate of a boll of barley is above 17 s. per boll, the importation thereof not being allowed till the price be at or above 24 s. per quarter.

On what juſt ground then can it be maintained, that the import-rate of oatmeal ought to be reduced to 13 s. 4 d. per boll? In like manner, by the act in 1672, the import-rate of wheat was made ten pounds per boll. By the law, as it now ſtands, the import rate is one half more, wheat not being allowed to be imported, till it ſhall be at, or above, forty-eight ſhillings per quarter.

Yet, though the import-rate thereof be greatly advanced, the Glaſgow merchants, &c. are perfectly ſatisfied, provided the import-rate of oatmeal be reduced to 13 s. 4 d. per boll. How can ſuch ſtrange conduct be accounted for? If it was reaſonable thus to advance the import-rates of barley and wheat, on what medium can it be pretended, that the import-rate of oatmeal ought not to be advanced at all? When facts are truly ſtated, it is impoſſible that their plea can be ſupported on any ground whatever. One reaſon occurs, and one only, why the Glaſgow merchants, &c. have ventured to inſiſt thus boldly for the reduction of the import-rate of oatmeal, whilſt they approve of the import-rates of the other grains being ſo much advanced: They knew it was much the intereſt of the Engliſh to ſupport the import-rates of the other grains, whilſt they had no intereſt to ſupport the very ſmall advance made on the import-rate of oatmeal; for which cauſe, if they had attacked the import-rates of the other grains, the Engliſh would have laughed at their arrogance and folly: whereas, by approving of the import-rates of the grains in which only the Engliſh were intereſted, they had ſome reaſon to think they might conſent to their petition for reducing the import-rate of a commodity in which their huſbandry was no wiſe concerned, if the landholders of Scotland ſhould tamely look on, and, from inadvertency, not oppoſe what theſe traders unreaſonably deſired.

[*This ſubject to be continued.*]

From

From *Journal de Medecine* at Paris.

JAmes Dereau, apprentice to an engraver, aged fourteen years, born at Fountainebleau, lived in the ſtreet D'Enfer in Paris, near the Pont Rouge, with his maſter the Sieur Montabon, who occupied an apartment, two chambers of which look towards the Grêve.

This youth was in one of thoſe chambers, with one Leroux, his companion, May 6. the day of the execution of Des Rues: his maſter, miſtreſs, and ſome of their friends, were in the other chamber.

At the moment of the criminal's leaving the town-houſe, Dereau, appriſed by his companion, felt an extraordinary emotion. This agitation was prodigiouſly increaſed when this unfortunate wretch was thrown into the fire. Dereau was inſtantly ſeized with a violent headach, and a great ſuffocation and uneaſineſs. In the night he was diſturbed by frightful dreams; the object that had ſtruck him remained ſtrongly impreſſed on his brain. Next day his diſorder and uneaſineſs increaſed: on the 9th he was brought to the Hoſpital of Charity: he continued in the ſame ſituation for above a month. He had alſo a fever, all his motions were convulſive, his looks were expreſſive of fright; the leaſt noiſe, the approach of thoſe who took care of him, ſeemed to inſpire him with horror. He uttered inceſſantly, by day and night, deep and bitter cries; he forcibly kept his eyes ſhut; he refuſed all food and medicines; he was extremely weak and emaciated: at length he had a cramp, which laſted forty-eight hours. This alarming attack yielded to the application of bliſters; but at the ſame time his belly ſwelled. This new ſymptom was ſucceſsfully combated by bark gliſters, and from that time the violence of the diſorder abated. The boy began to open his eyes, and ventured to look at the objects round him; his cries were leſs frequent; his diſpoſition, naturally gentle and weak, made him tractable. He had two abſceſſes formed near the loins; they were opened, and ſoon healed. He left the hoſpital Aug. 1. having recovered his fleſh and all his ſenſes. Nothing remains but a little oppreſſion and difficulty of expreſſing himſelf, and a voice almoſt loſt; inſtead of which he aſſerts, that his pronunciation was clear, and his voice ſonorous.

This remarkable diſorder is not the only one occaſioned by the wretched Des Rues: A woman, ill before, it is true, was ſo affected by the particulars of his villany, that ſhe thought herſelf ſuſpected of being his accomplice; and this impreſſion deprived this poor creature of her ſenſes, ſo that ſhe threw herſelf out at a window from a third ſtory; but did not loſe her life by the fall.

Union of Minds.

From Sir Joſhua Reynolds's Diſcourſe to the Students of the Royal Academy, Dec. 10. 1766.

—— One man oppoſing another determines nothing; but a general union of minds, like a general combination of the forces of all mankind, makes a ſtrength that is irreſiſtible. In fact, as he who does not know himſelf does not know others, ſo it may be ſaid with equal truth, that he who does not know others knows himſelf but very imperfectly.

A man who thinks he is guarding himſelf againſt prejudices by reſiſting the authority of others, leaves open every avenue to ſingularity, vanity, ſelf-conceit, obſtinacy, and many other vices, all tending to warp the judgement, and prevent the natural operation of his faculties.

This ſubmiſſion to others is a deference which we owe, and indeed are forced involuntarily to pay. In fact, we are never ſatisfied with our opinions, till they are ratified and confirmed by the ſuffrages of the reſt of mankind. We diſpute and wrangle for ever; we endeavour to get men to come to us, when we do not go to them.

He therefore who is acquainted with the works which have pleaſed different ages, and different countries, and has formed his opinion on them, has more materials, and more means of knowing what is analogous to the mind of man, than he who is converſant only with the works of his own age or country. What has pleaſed, and continues to pleaſe, is likely to pleaſe again: hence are derived the rules of art, and on this immoveable foundation they muſt ever ſtand.

Mrs Foote and her Son.

Mrs Foote, mother of Ariſtophanes, was of a very whimſical turn of mind. She was ſent priſoner to the king's-bench, and her ſon to a ſpunging-houſe, on one day; and the following laconic letters paſſed between mother and ſon.

"Dear Sam, I am in priſon."

Anſwer. "Dear Mother, ſo am I."

The

The History of 1776 continued. [527.]

VIRGINIA.

DURING theſe proceedings in Canada, a long courſe of jealouſy, diſtruſt, ſuſpicion, and altercation, between the Governor, and the major part of the governed, in the colony of Virginia, finally terminated in open hoſtility, and a ruinous, inteſtinal, and predatory war. Theſe unhappy effects proceeded (as is too frequently the caſe) from a cauſe apparently unimportant; but as the heat of controverſy nouriſhed the quarrel, ſo mutual diſtruſt and apprehenſion ſupplied the place of an object.

The people of that colony, as we have formerly ſhewn, had been at leaſt as forward as any other, in all the common acts, of ſending delegates to the general congreſs, acceding to its decrees, under whatever form or title they were iſſued, and in the inſtituting of committees, and the entering into aſſociations, among themſelves. They were alſo among the freeſt in expreſſing their reſolutions, and the readieſt in ſhewing their determination, to ſupport, at all riſks and events, what they deemed, or termed, the rights of America. But in other reſpects the greateſt order and quiet was preſerved in the province; and notwithſtanding the uneaſineſs excited by the prorogation or diſſolution of their aſſemblies, and the conſequent expiration of their militia-laws, (which, in a country where a great majority of the people are in a ſtate of ſlavery, was a circumſtance of the moſt alarming nature, and which might have been attended with the moſt fatal conſequences), yet with theſe cauſes of complaint, the people ſeemed to pay a more than common degree of attention and perſonal regard to the Earl of Dunmore, their Governor.

In this ſtate of things, however, the want of a legal aſſembly ſeeming to give ſome ſanction to the holding of a convention, a provincial congreſs was aſſembled in the month of March 1775; who immediately (under the cover of an old law of the year 1738, which they ſaid to be ſtill effective) took meaſures for arraying the militia; but to ſupply in ſome degree thoſe defects in that law, to remedy which, as they pretended, all ſubſequent ones had been paſſed, they recommended to each county to raiſe a volunteer company, for the better defence and protection of the country.

This interference in the militia, probably alarmed the Governor, and ſeems to have been the cauſe that rendered the public magazine belonging to the colony in the capital city of Williamſburgh, an object of his apprehenſion. However that was, he ſoon afterwards (April 20. 1775.) employed the captain of an armed veſſel, which lay at a few miles diſtance in James river, with a detachment of marines, to convey the powder, by night, from the magazine on board his ſhip. [xxxvii. 356.]

Though this meaſure was conducted with great privacy, it was by ſome means diſcovered the enſuing morning, when the apparent ſecrecy, and ſeeming myſteriouſneſs of the act, increaſed the conſternation and alarm among the inhabitants; who immediately aſſembled, with ſuch arms as they had at hand, with an intention of demanding, or, perhaps, obtaining, reſtitution of the gunpowder. The mayor and incorporation, however, prevented their proceeding to any extremities, whilſt they preſented an addreſs to the Governor, ſtating the injury, reclaiming the powder as a matter of right, and ſhewing the dangers to which they were peculiarly liable from the inſurrection of their ſlaves; a calamity which had for ſome time been particularly apprehended, and which the removal of their only means of defence would at any time have accelerated.

His Lordſhip acknowledged, that the gunpowder had been removed by his order; ſaid, that as he had heard of an inſurrection in a neighbouring county, and did not think it ſecure in the magazine, he had it conveyed to a place of perfect ſecurity; but gave his word, that whenever an inſurrection rendered it neceſſary, it ſhould be immediately returned. He alſo ſaid, that it had been removed in the night to prevent giving an alarm; expreſſed great ſurpriſe at the people's aſſembling in arms; and obſerved, that he could not think it prudent to put powder into their hands in ſuch a ſituation.

Whatever ſatisfaction this anſwer might have afforded to the magiſtrates, they prevailed on the people to retire quietly to their houſes, without any remarkable outrage, that we can learn, having been committed. Indeed it appeared, from depoſitions afterwards taken by order of the aſſembly, that the officers of the men of war on that ſtation, and particularly the gentleman who might be ſuppoſed to

have rendered himself obnoxious by removing the powder, appeared publicly in the ſtreets during the time of the greateſt commotion, without their receiving the ſmalleſt inſult. A report being, however, ſpread in the evening, that detachments from the men of war were upon their march to the city, the people again took to their arms, and continued all night upon the watch, as if in expectation of an attack from an enemy. They alſo from this time increaſed their night-patroles, and ſhewed an evident deſign to protect the magazine from any further attempts.

The whole value of the powder and arms in the magazine, or any purpoſe to which they were capable of being converted, either in the hands of friends or enemies, ſeemed very inadequate to the alarm, ſuſpicion, and diſturbance, which this meaſure excited. The quantity of powder removed amounted only to fifteen half-barrels, containing fifty pounds each, of a very ordinary ſort, and the remaining ſtock left behind in the magazine, to about ſix of the ſame kind. Neither does it appear that the number of ſerviceable muſkets was ſufficient to anſwer any eſſential purpoſe, or even to juſtify apprehenſion; and the caution of ſtripping theſe of their locks, only marked the ſuſpicion from which it proceeded. A conſiderable quantity of old arms, and common trading guns, were not meddled with. Upon the whole, this act derived its only importance, from time, manner, and circumſtance.

The Governor ſeems to have been exceedingly irritated at the behaviour of the people in theſe commotions, and perhaps reſented too highly, for ſuch times, their aſſembling in arms, not only without, but with an evident intention to oppoſe his authority. In this warmth of temper ſome threats were thrown out, which upon a cooler reflection would probably have been avoided. Among theſe, a threat of ſetting up the royal ſtandard, of enfranchiſing the negroes, arming them againſt their maſters, and deſtroying the city, with other expreſſions of a ſimilar nature and tendency, not only ſpread a general alarm throughout the colony, but excited a kind of abhorrence of government, and an incurable ſuſpicion of its deſigns.

In the mean time, ſeveral public meetings were held in different counties; in all of which, the meaſure of ſeizing and removing the powder, as well as the Governor's threats, were reprobated in the ſtrongeſt terms. Some of the gentlemen of Hanover, and other of the neighbouring counties, were not, however, ſatisfied with ſimple declarations. They aſſembled in arms to a conſiderable number, under the conduct of a Mr Henry, who was one of the provincial delegates to the general congreſs, and marched towards Williamſburgh, with an avowed deſign, not only to obtain reſtitution of the gunpowder, but to take ſuch effectual meaſures for ſecuring the public treaſury, as ſhould prevent its experiencing a ſimilar fate with the magazine. A negotiation was, however, entered into with the magiſtrates, when they had arrived within a few miles of the city, in which it was finally ſettled, that the receiver-general of the colony's ſecurity, for paying the value of the gunpowder, ſhould be accepted as reſtitution; and that upon the inhabitants engaging for the future, effectually to guard both the treaſury and magazine, the inſurgents ſhould return to their habitations.

The alarm of this affair, induced Lady Dunmore, with the Governor's family, to retire on board the Fowey man of war in James river, whilſt his Lordſhip, with the aſſiſtance of a detachment of marines, converted his palace into a little garriſon, fortified it in the beſt manner he was able, and ſurrounded it with artillery. A proclamation from the Governor and Council, in which Henry and his followers were charged with rebellious practices, in extorting the value of the powder from the receiver-general, and the preſent commotions were attributed to diſaffection in the people, and a deſire of changing the eſtabliſhed form of government [xxxvii. 358.], ſerved only to afford more room for altercation, and to increaſe the heat and diſcontent. Several county-meetings were held, Henry's conduct vindicated and applauded, and reſolutions paſſed, that at the riſk of every thing dear, he and his followers ſhould be indemnified from all ſuffering, loſs, and injury, upon that account. The charge of diſaffection was peremptorily denied, and thoſe of changing the form of government, and cauſing the preſent troubles, retorted. They inſiſted, that they wanted nothing but to preſerve their ancient conſtitution, and only oppoſed innovations, and that all the diſturbances ſprung from the Governor's late conduct.

As

As there are times when all circumſtances ſeem to conſpire towards the nouriſhment and increaſe of political as well as natural diſorders, ſo it appeared now in Virginia, every thing tending to one common centre of diſtruſt, jealouſy, and diſcontent. The copies of ſome letters from the Governor to the miniſter of the American department, [xxxvii. 366.] were by ſome means procured, and public and ſevere cenſures paſſed upon them, as containing not only unfavourable, but unfair and unjuſt repreſentations, as well of facts, as of the temper and diſpoſition of the colony. Thus one diſtruſt begot another, until all confidence being totally loſt on both ſides, every falſe report that was circulated was believed on either, and ſerved for its time to keep up the public fever.

In this ſtate of commotion and diſorder, upon the arrival of diſpatches from England, the general aſſembly was ſuddenly and unexpectedly convened by the Governor, June 1. [xxxvii. 360. — 366.] The grand motive for this meaſure, was to procure their approbation and acceptance of the terms included in Lord North's conciliatory motion, and the parliamentary reſolutions founded thereupon. His Lordſhip, accordingly, in his ſpeech, uſed his utmoſt addreſs to carry this favourite point: he ſtated the favourable diſpoſition of parliament, as well as of government, towards the colonies; the moderation, equity, and tenderneſs, which induced the preſent advances towards a happy reconciliation; he dwelt upon the juſtice of their contributing to the common defence, and bearing an equitable proportion of the public burthens; obſerved, that as no ſpecific ſum was demanded, they had an opportunity of giving a free ſcope to their juſtice and liberality, and that whatever they gave, would be a free gift in the fulleſt ſenſe of the terms; that they would thus ſhew their reverence for parliament, and manifeſt their duty and attachment to the ſovereign; and the kindneſs with which it would be taken, that they met, on their ſide, the favourable diſpoſition ſhewn on the other, towards bringing the preſent unhappy diſputes to a period. He alſo took pains to convince them, from the proceedings and reſolutions of parliament, that a full redreſs of all their real grievances would be the immediate conſequence of their compliance.

The firſt act of the aſſembly, was the appointment of a committee to enquire into the cauſes of the late diſturbances, and particularly to examine the ſtate of the magazine, that neceſſary meaſures might be accordingly taken for its repleniſhment. Though the magazine was the property of the colony, it was in the cuſtody of the Governor, who appointed a keeper, ſo that an application to him for admittance was neceſſary. During an altercation which aroſe upon this ſubject, and before the order for admittance was obtained, ſome people of the town and neighbourhood broke into the magazine, and carried off ſome of the arms; ſeveral members of the Houſe of Burgeſſes, however, uſed their perſonal intereſt and application in getting as many of them as they could, returned. It appeared by the report of the committee, that they found moſt of the remainder of the powder buried in the magazine-yard, where it had been depoſited by the Governor's orders, and ſuffered conſiderable damage from the rain; the depriving the muſkets of their locks was alſo now diſcovered, as well as the nakedneſs and inſufficiency of the magazine in all reſpects. Among other matters which ſerved to irritate the people, was the planting of ſpring-guns in the magazine, (without giving any public notice of ſuch a mode of ſecurity), and ſome effects they had taken at the time of the late depredations. [xxxvii. 361.]

Whilſt the Governor's ſpeech, with the propoſitions which it recommended, were yet under the conſideration of the aſſembly, and before their addreſs was determined upon, his Lordſhip, with his lady and family, quitted the palace privately, and ſuddenly, June 8. at night, and retired on board the Fowey man of war, which then lay near York town, on the river of the ſame name. He left a meſſage for the Houſe of Burgeſſes, acquainting them, that he thought it prudent to retire to a place of ſafety, as he was fully perſuaded, that both himſelf and his family were in conſtant danger of falling ſacrifices to the blind and unmeaſurable fury of the people; that ſo far from intending to interrupt their ſitting, he hoped they would ſucceſsfully proceed in the great buſineſs before them; that he would render the communication between him and the houſe as eaſy and ſafe as poſſible; and that he thought it would be more agree-

able to them to ſend ſome of their members to him as occaſion ſhould require, than to have the trouble of moving their whole body to a nearer place. He aſſured them, that he ſhould attend as uſual to the duties of his office, and of his good diſpoſition to reſtore that harmony which had been ſo unhappily interrupted.

This meſſage produced a joint addreſs from the Council and Houſe of Burgeſſes; declaring their unbelief that any perſons in that province could meditate ſo horrid and atrocious a crime as his Lordſhip apprehended; lamenting that he had not acquainted them with the ground of his uneaſineſs before he had adopted this meaſure, as they would have uſed all poſſible means to have removed every cauſe of his diſquietude; they feared that his removal from the ſeat of government would be a means of increaſing the uneaſineſs which unhappily prevailed among the people; declared that they would chearfully concur in any meaſure which he ſhould propoſe for the ſecurity of himſelf and his family; obſerving how impracticable it would be to carry on the buſineſs of the ſeſſion with any degree of propriety and diſpatch, whilſt he was at ſuch a diſtance, and ſo inconveniently ſituated. They concluded by intreating his return, with his lady and family, to the palace, which would afford great public ſatisfaction, and be the likelieſt means of quieting the minds of the people.

Lord Dunmore returned a written anſwer, June 10. in which he juſtified his apprehenſions of danger, from the public notoriety of the commotions among the people, as well as of the threats and menaces with which they were attended; beſides complaints of the general conduct and diſpoſition of the Houſe of Burgeſſes, he ſpecified ſeveral charges againſt that body; that they had countenanced the violent and diſorderly proceedings of the people, particularly with reſpect to the magazine, which was forced and rifled in the preſence of ſome of their members; that inſtead of the commitment of thoſe perſons who had been guilty of ſo daring and heinous an offence, they only endeavoured to procure a reſtitution of the arms: That the Houſe, or its Committee, had ventured upon a ſtep fraught with the moſt alarming conſequences, in appointing guards, without his approbation or conſent, under pretence of protecting the magazine, ſhewing thereby a deſign of uſurping the executive power, and of ſubverting the conſtitution.

He obſerved, that no means could be effectual for affording the ſecurity which they propoſed to concur in, but by reinſtating him in the full powers of his office, by opening the courts of juſtice, and reſtoring the energy of the laws; by diſarming all independent companies, or other bodies of men, raiſed and acting in defiance of legal authority; by obliging the immediate return of the King's arms and ſtores; and by, what was not leſs eſſential than any other matter, their own example, and their endeavours to remove that general deluſion which kept the minds of the people in a continual ferment, and thereby to aboliſh that malice and ſpirit of perſecution, which now operated ſo dangerouſly againſt all thoſe who, from duty and affection to their King and country, oppoſed the preſent meaſures, and who from principle and conviction differed with the multitude in political opinion: That theſe were the means to afford the ſecurity requiſite for all parties; and that, for the accompliſhment of thoſe ends, together with the great object and neceſſary buſineſs of the ſeſſion, he ſhould have no objection to their adjourning to the town of York, where he would meet them, and remain, till the buſineſs was finiſhed.

He concluded by repreſenting, that unleſs they had a ſincere and active deſire of ſeizing the opportunity which was now offered by parliament, of eſtabliſhing the freedom of their country upon a fixed and known foundation, and of uniting themſelves with their fellow-ſubjects of G. Britain in one common bond of intereſt and mutual aſſiſtance, his return to Williamſburgh would be as fruitleſs to the people, as it might poſſibly be dangerous to himſelf; but that if their proceedings manifeſted that happy diſpoſition, he would return with the greateſt joy, and conſider it as the moſt fortunate event of his life, if they gave him an opportunity to be an inſtrument of promoting their happineſs, and of being a ſucceſsful mediator between them and the ſupreme authority.

The mollifying terms of the concluſion, were by no means equal to the removal of the acrimony excited by thoſe ſevere charges and implications which were

were contained in the foregoing parts of this long meſſage. It accordingly produced a reply of an uncommon length, under the form of an addreſs, which was fraught with all the bitterneſs of recrimination, as well as with defenſive arguments, and an examination of facts. The Houſe had now received the report of its committee relative to the cauſes of the late diſturbances, backed by the depoſitions of a number of Britiſh merchants, who were reſident in different and remote parts of the colony, all whoſe teſtimony tended to ſhew the general tranquillity which prevailed previous to the late affair of the powder, and the Governor's declaration relative to the ſlaves, the latter of which, ſo far as it was believed, having particularly irritated the people; that, notwithſtanding, quiet and order were ſoon every where reſtored, and ſtill continued; that there was a general acquieſcence every where in the determinations of the general and provincial congreſs; but they all concurred in believing, that the people had no deſign or wiſh of an independency on Great Britain; and ſome, that, on the contrary, they had a moſt eager deſire for ſuch a connection as it ſtood before the late acts of parliament; they were unanimous in their opinion, that a redreſs of the grievances complained of, would eſtabliſh a perfect tranquillity, and produce a reconciliation with the parent-ſtate.

To refute the charges or inſinuations of diſaffection and diſloyalty, the Houſe of Burgeſſes took a retroſpective view of the behaviour of the people, and of ſeveral tranſactions in the colony, for ſome years back; they ſtated the happineſs which they derived under the conduct of former Governors, as a ſtrong contraſt to their preſent ſituation; they attributed that happineſs, particularly in a very late inſtance, to the diſcountenancing of tale-bearers and malicious informers, to a proper examination of every ſubject, and the taking of nothing upon truſt; and, finally, to the tranſmitting home a faithful repreſentation of things in the colony. They ſtated their former conduct and behaviour with reſpect to his Lordſhip, and obſerved, that changes ſeldom happened without ſome ſufficient cauſe; that reſpect was not to be obtained by force from a free people; that nothing was ſo likely to inſure it, as dignity of character, a candid and exemplary conduct; That they did not mean to inſinuate his Lordſhip would, deſignedly, miſrepreſent facts; but that it was much to be feared, he too eaſily gave credit to deſigning perſons, who, to the great injury of the community, poſſeſſed much too large a ſhare of his confidence.

They controverted the facts, and examined, with great ſeverity, the repreſentations and charges contained in thoſe two letters to the Earl of Dartmouth, which we have already taken notice of: theſe they repreſented as exceedingly injurious and unjuſt, as founded on miſconception, miſinformation, the height of colouring, the miſtating, or the aſſumption of facts, without evidence. They then proceeded to juſtify the ſteps which had been taken with regard to the militia; their ſuppoſed countenance to the acts done concerning the magazine, and the other matters which firſt excited, and afterwards inflamed, the controverſy.

The Houſe of Burgeſſes alſo preſented their addreſs in anſwer to the Governor's ſpeech, June 14.; in which they entered into a long diſcuſſion of the propoſition contained in the parliamentary reſolution, founded upon Lord North's conciliatory motion. This they combated upon the ſame grounds, and with a variety of arguments of the ſame nature, that we have formerly ſtated; and they ultimately declared, that as it only changed the form of oppreſſion, without leſſening its burthen, they could not cloſe with its terms. They obſerved, however, that theſe were only offered as the ſentiments of an individual part of the whole empire; and for a final determination they referred the affair to the general congreſs, before whom they would lay the papers. To them alſo they referred the diſcovery of that proper mode of repreſenting their well-founded grievances, which his Lordſhip aſſured them would meet with the attention and regard ſo juſtly due to them. For themſelves, they made the following declaration: "We have exhauſted every mode of application which our invention could ſuggeſt, as proper and promiſing. We have decently remonſtrated with parliament; they have added new injuries to the old. We have wearied our King with ſupplications; he has not deigned to anſwer us. We have appealed to the native honour and juſtice

Juſtice of the Britiſh nation; their efforts in our favour have been hitherto ineffectual."

In this ſtate of diſtruſt and ill humour on both ſides, every day afforded new ground for bickering, and every incident freſh room for altercation, ſo that there was a continued intercourſe, by addreſſes, meſſages, and anſwers, between the Houſe of Burgeſſes and the Fowey [xxxvii. 362, 3, 4. 544, 5.]. This was a ſingular ſituation; an attempt to govern, without chuſing, or finding it ſafe, to ſet a foot on ſhore in the country to be governed.

At length, the neceſſary bills having paſſed the aſſembly, and the advanced ſeaſon requiring their attendance in their ſeveral countries, the Council and Burgeſſes jointly intreated the Governor's preſence, to give his aſſent to them, and finiſh the ſeſſion. They obſerved, that though the buſineſs had been greatly impeded by his abſence from the ſeat of government, and they had ſubmitted to the inconvenience of repeatedly ſending their members twelve miles to attend his Excellency on board a ſhip of war, they could not but think it highly improper, and too great a departure from the conſtitutional and accuſtomed mode of tranſacting their buſineſs, to preſent the bills to him at any other place than the capital.

Lord Dunmore in his anſwer was ſomewhat rough. He inſiſted upon his right of calling them to any place in the colony, where the exigence of affairs might render their attendance neceſſary. He further obſerved, that as he had not been made acquainted with the whole proceedings of the aſſembly, he knew of no bills of importance, which, if he were inclined to riſk his perſon again among the people, they had to preſent to him, nor whether they were ſuch as he could aſſent to if they had.

To obviate theſe objections, though it was an unprecedented act, the aſſembly ſent the bills, as well as other papers which were afterwards demanded, on board the Fowey, for his inſpection. The moſt intereſting of thoſe bills, ſeemingly to all parties, was that for the payment of the forces, who had lately, under his Lordſhip's command, ſuffered conſiderably, at the ſame time that they had done eſſential ſervice to their country, by their bravery and ſucceſs in the late Indian war. This bill was objected to by the Governor, for its impoſing a tax upon the importation of ſlaves, and for ſome informality in reſpect to the emiſſion of paper-money. The other bills were approved of.

This produced the final addreſs from the Houſe of Burgeſſes, in which they intreated his Excellency, that he would meet them the enſuing day at Williamſburgh, to paſs the bills that were ready; expreſſed their hopes, that he could not ſtill entertain any groundleſs fears of perſonal danger; but declared, that if it was poſſible he remained under ſo ſtrange an influence, they pledged their honours, and every thing ſacred, for his ſecurity. If nothing could prevail, they requeſted that he would grant a commiſſion for paſſing ſuch bills as he approved.

Lord Dunmore perſiſted in the objections he had made to the bill; ſaid that the well-grounded cauſe he had for believing his perſon not ſafe at Williamſburgh, had increaſed daily; that he therefore could not meet them, as they requeſted, at the capital; but that he would be ready to receive the houſe on the following Monday, at his preſent reſidence, for the purpoſe of giving his aſſent to ſuch acts as he ſhould approve of.

This anſwer put an end to all public correſpondence and buſineſs between the Governor and colony. The transferring the Legiſlative Council and Houſe of Repreſentatives of a great country on board a man of war, was evidently not to be expected. Their danger in ſuch a ſituation, if on other accounts it were poſſible they could put themſelves into it, was no leſs than Lord Dunmore's could be on land. It may, however, be ſuppoſed, that the Governor's conduct was operated upon by cauſes, or influenced by motives, with which we are unacquainted.

Upon receiving the foregoing anſwer, the Burgeſſes paſſed reſolutions, in which they declared, that the meſſage requiring them to attend the Governor on board a ſhip of war, was a high breach of their rights and privileges; that the unreaſonable delays thrown into their proceedings, and the evaſive anſwers to their ſincere and decent addreſſes, gave them reaſon to fear that a dangerous attack was meditated againſt the unhappy people of that colony; and it was therefore their opinion, that they ſhould prepare for the preſervation of their proper-

ty, and their ineſtimable rights and liberties: and then, ſtrongly profeſſing loyalty to the King, and amity to the mother-country, they broke up their ſeſſion.

Thus, unhappily, was an end put, for the preſent, to the Engliſh government in the colony of Virginia. A convention of delegates was ſoon [July 18.] appointed to ſupply the place of the aſſembly, who having an unlimited confidence repoſed in them by the people, became accordingly poſſeſſed of an unlimited power in all public affairs. Theſe immediately took in hand the raiſing and embodying of an armed force, as well as the providing means for its ſupport, and purſued every other meaſure which could tend to place the colony in a ſtrong ſtate of defence. Whilſt they were purſuing theſe dangerous ſteps, they publiſhed a declaration in juſtification of their conduct, tracing the meaſures that led to the preſent unhappy ſtate of public affairs, ſetting forth the cauſe of their meeting, and ſhewing the neceſſity of immediately putting the country in a poſture of defence, for the protection of their lives, liberties, and properties. They concluded, as the aſſembly had done, with the ſtrongeſt profeſſions of faith and loyalty; and declared, that as, on the one hand, they were determined, at the peril of the extremeſt hazards, to maintain their juſt rights and privileges; ſo, on the other, it was their fixed and unalterable reſolution, to diſband ſuch forces as were raiſed for the defence of the colony, whenever their dangers were removed, and America reſtored to its former ſtate of tranquillity and happineſs.

Whether Lord Dunmore expected that any extraordinary advantages might be derived from an inſurrection of the ſlaves, or that he imagined there was a much greater number of people in the colony who were ſatisfied with the preſent ſyſtem of government, than really was the caſe, (a miſtake, and an unfortunate one, which, like an epidemical diſtemper, ſeems to have ſpread through all our official departments in America), upon whatever grounds he proceeded, he determined, though he relinquiſhed his government, not to abandon his hopes, nor entirely to loſe ſight of the country which he had governed. He accordingly, being joined by thoſe friends of government, who had rendered themſelves too obnoxious to the people to continue with ſafety in the country, as well as by a number of run-away negroes, and ſupported by the frigates of war which were upon the ſtation, endeavoured to eſtabliſh ſuch a marine force, as would enable him, by means of the noble rivers which render the moſt valuable parts of that rich country acceſſible by water, to be always at hand, and ready to profit of any favourable occaſion that offered.

Upon this, or ſome ſimilar ſyſtem, he by degrees equipped and armed a number of veſſels of different kinds and ſizes, in one of which he conſtantly reſided, never ſetting his foot on ſhore but in a hoſtile manner; the force thus put together, was, however, calculated only for depredation, and never became equal to any eſſential ſervice. The former, indeed, was in part a matter of neceſſity: for as the people on ſhore would not ſupply thoſe on board with proviſions or neceſſaries, they muſt either ſtarve, or provide them by force. The Virginians pretend, that while the depredations were confined to thoſe neceſſary objects, the reſpect which they bore to the rank and office of their governor, prevented his meeting with any reſiſtance; but their nature was ſoon changed into open and avowed hoſtility. Obnoxious perſons, they ſaid, were ſeized, and carried on board the ſhips; plantations ravaged and deſtroyed; the negroes carried off; houſes burnt, and at length lives loſt on both ſides. In one of theſe expeditions, his Lordſhip deſtroyed a number of iron cannon, and carried off ſome others, which he ſuppoſed were provided for the purpoſes of rebellion, though the Virginians aſſert they were ſhip-guns. Theſe proceedings occaſioned the ſending of ſome detachments of the new-raiſed forces to protect the coaſts; and from thence enſued, a ſmall, miſchievous, predatory war, incapable of affording honour or benefit, and in which, at length, every drop of water, and every neceſſary, was purchaſed at the price or the riſk of blood.

During this ſtate of hoſtility, he procured a few ſoldiers from different parts, with whoſe aſſiſtance, an attempt was made, Oct. 25. to burn a port-town, in an important ſituation, called Hampton. It ſeems the inhabitants had ſome previous ſuſpicion of the deſign; for they had ſunk boats in the entrance of the harbour,

harbour, and thrown such other obstacles in the way, as rendered the approach of the ships, and consequently a landing, impracticable on the day in which the attack was commenced. The ships cut a passage through the boats in the night, and began to cannonade the town furiously in the morning; but at this critical period, they were relieved from their apprehensions and danger, by the arrival of a detachment of rifle and minute men, from Williamsburgh, who had marched all night to their assistance. These, joined with the inhabitants, attacked the ships so vigorously with their small arms, that they were obliged precipitately to quit their station, with the loss of some men, and of a tender, which was taken.

In consequence of this repulse, a proclamation was issued by the Governor, dated on board the ship William off Norfolk, Nov. 7. declaring, that as the civil law was at present insufficient to prevent and punish treason and traitors, martial law should take place, and be executed throughout the colony; and requiring all persons capable of bearing arms to repair to his Majesty's standard, or to be considered as traitors. He also declared all indented servants, negroes, or others, appertaining to rebels, who were able and willing to bear arms, and who joined his Majesty's forces, to be free. [xxxviii. 21.]

This measure of emancipating the negroes, excited less surprise, and probably had less effect in exciting the desired insurrection, from its being so long threatened and apprehended, than if it had been more immediate and unexpected. It was, however, received with the greatest horror in all the colonies, and has been severely condemned elsewhere, as tending to loosen the bands of society, to destroy domestic security, and encourage the most barbarous of mankind, to the commission of the most horrible crimes, and the most inhuman cruelties; that it was confounding the innocent with the guilty, and exposing those who were the best friends to government, to the same loss of property, danger, and destruction, with the most incorrigible rebels. It was said to establish a precedent of a most dangerous nature in the new world, by giving a legal sanction to the arraying and embodying of African negroes, to appear in arms against white men, and to encounter them upon an equal footing in the field: for however founded distinctions with respect to colour may appear, when examined by the tests of nature, reason, or philosophy; while things continue in their present state, while commerce, luxury, and avarice, render slavery a principal object in the political system of every European power that possesses dominion in America, the idea of a pre-eminence must always be cherished, and considered as a necessary policy. This measure is perhaps liable to be charged with another political fault, which has attended too many others that have been lately adopted with respect to America, viz. that of violent irritation, without affording any adequate benefit.

The proclamation, however, with Lord Dunmore's presence, and the encouragement of the small marine force he had with him, produced, for the present, some effect in the town of Norfolk, and the adjoining country, where many of the people were well affected to government. He was accordingly joined by some hundreds both of blacks and whites; and many others, who did not chuse to take an active part, publicly abjured the congress, with all its acts, and all conventions and committees, whatever. It is probable that Lord Dunmore now hoped, that the facility and good disposition which he experienced here, would have been so general, as to enable him to raise a considerable armed force, and thus, perhaps, without any foreign assistance, to have the glory of reducing one part of the province by the means of the other.

This pleasing hope was interrupted by intelligence, that a party of the rebels were marching towards them with great expedition. To obstruct their designs, and protect the well-affected, he took possession of a post called the Great-bridge, which lay at some miles distance from Norfolk, and was a pass of great consequence, being the only way by which they could approach to that town. Here he constructed a fort on the Norfolk side of the bridge, which he furnished well with artillery, and rendered as defensible as the time would admit. Notwithstanding the loyalty of the people in this quarter, which included two small counties, it does not appear that his force was at all considerable, either as to number or quality: he had indeed about 200 regulars, including the grena-

dier

diers of the 14th regiment, and a body called the Norfolk volunteers; the reſt were a motley mixture of blacks and whites. The enemy, under the command of a Col. Woodford, fortified themſelves alſo, within leſs than cannon-ſhot of our people; they had a narrow cauſeway in their front, which muſt be paſſed to come at their works, ſo that both parties ſeemed pretty well ſecured from ſurpriſe.

In this ſtate they continued quiet on both ſides for ſome days, until at length a deſign was formed, of ſurpriſing the rebels in their entrenchments. This was undertaken before day light, Dec. 9. Capt. Fordyce, at the head of his grenadiers, amounting to about ſixty, led the attack. They boldly paſſed the cauſeway, and marched up to the entrenchments with fixed bayonets, and with a coolneſs and intrepidity, which firſt excited the aſtoniſhment, and afterwards the praiſe, of their enemies; for they were not only expoſed naked to the fire in front, but enfiladed by another part of the works. The brave Captain, with ſeveral of his men, fell; the Lieutenant, with others, were taken, and all the ſurvivors of the grenadier company, whether priſoners or not, were wounded.

The fire of the artillery from the fort, enabled our people to retire without purſuit, as well as to carry off many of their dead and wounded. It will excite no great ſurpriſe, that the ſlaves in this engagement did more prejudice to our own people, than to the enemy. It has been ſaid, that we were led into this unfortunate affair, through the deſigned falſe intelligence of a pretended deſerter, who was tutored for the purpoſe; however that may be, it was grievous, that ſuch uncommon bravery ſhould be ſquandered to no purpoſe. Capt. Fordyce was interred with every military honour by the victors, who ſhewed due reſpect to his former merit, as well as to the gallantry which ſignalized his laſt moments. The Engliſh priſoners were treated with great kindneſs; the Americans who had joined the King's ſtandard, with equal rigour.

The King's forces retired from the poſt at the Great-bridge the enſuing night, without any other loſs than a few pieces of cannon, and ſome trifling ſtores which they left behind; and as all hopes in this quarter were now at an end, Lord Dunmore thought it neceſſary to abandon the town and neighbourhood of Norfolk, and retired again with his people on board the ſhips, which were conſiderably increaſed in number by thoſe which they found in that port. Many of the well affected (or Tories, which was the appellation now given to them throughout America) thought it prudent, with their families, to ſeek the ſame aſylum, whither they alſo carried the moſt portable and valuable of their effects. Thus his Lordſhip formed a conſiderable fleet, with reſpect to the number of veſſels and tonnage, and theſe were alſo crouded with people; but the ſhips were without force, and contained mouths without hands fit to navigate them. The rebels took poſſeſſion of Norfolk, and the fleet moved to a greater diſtance.

During theſe tranſactions a ſcheme had been in agitation, for raiſing a conſiderable force at the back of the colonies, particularly in Virginia and the Carolinas, where it was known there were many well affected to the King's government; it was hoped that ſome of the Indian nations might be induced to become parties in this deſign; and that thus united, they not only would make ſuch a diverſion as muſt greatly alarm and diſtreſs the rebels, but that they might penetrate ſo far towards the coaſts, as to form a junction with Lord Dunmore. One Connelly, a native of Pennſylvania, an active enterpriſing man, who ſeems to have been well calculated for ſuch an undertaking, was the framer of this deſign; and his project being approved by Lord Dunmore, he with great difficulty and danger carried on a negotiation with the Ohio Indians, and his friends among the back ſettlers, upon the ſubject. This having ſucceeded to his ſatisfaction, he returned to Lord Dunmore; who ſent him with the neceſſary credentials to Boſton; where he received a commiſſion from General Gage, to act as colonel commandant, with aſſurances of ſupport and aſſiſtance, at the time and in the manner appointed. It was intended, that the garriſons which we had at Detroit, and ſome other of the remote back forts, with their artillery and ammunition, ſhould be ſubſervient to this deſign; and the adventurer expected to draw ſome aſſiſtance, at leaſt, of volunteers and officers, from the neareſt parts of Canada. He was to grant all commiſſions to the officers, and to have the ſupreme direction in every thing of the

new forces; and as ſoon as they were in ſufficient condition, he was to penetrate through Virginia in ſuch a manner, as to meet Lord Dunmore, at a given time in the month of April, in the vicinity of Alexandria, upon the river Potowmac, who was to bring ſuch a naval force, and other aſſiſtance, as was deemed neceſſary for the purpoſe. It was alſo a part, and not the leaſt comprehenſive, of this plan, to cut off the communication between the northern and ſouthern colonies.

Thus far affairs ſeemed to look well with our adventurer; but on his road through Maryland to the ſcene of action, and when he was ſo far advanced that the worſt ſeemed nearly over, the vigilance, or ſuſpicious temper, of one of the committees, unfortunately fruſtrated all his hopes. Being taken up on ſuſpicion, with two of his aſſociates who travelled along with him, his papers betrayed every thing: among theſe was the general ſcheme of the deſign, a letter from Lord Dunmore to one of the Indian chiefs, with ſuch other authentic vouchers, as left nothing to be doubted. The papers were publiſhed by the congreſs, and the undertakers ſent to priſon.

As it does not appear that the loyaliſts were very lenient to thoſe who differed with them in political opinions, during the ſhort time of their ſuperiority in the country adjoining to Norfolk, ſo now, upon the turn of affairs, the obtaining a plauſible ſhew of juſtice, under the colour of retaliation, afforded ſuch a favourable opportunity for the practice of ſeverity, and the gratification of private pique, and natural malignity, on the other ſide, as is never known to be neglected by any party in ſimilar circumſtances. For though many had taken ſhelter on board the ſhips, a much greater number remained behind, ſome being willing to hazard ſome danger rather than abandon their property; others hoping that their conduct, from its moderation, would bear enquiry; and the majority, from their having no proſpect of ſubſiſtence if they quitted home, and an expectation that their obſcurity would ſave them from notice. To conclude, ſuch charges of oppreſſion, injuſtice, and cruelty, were made on both ſides, as are uſually done in ſuch caſes.

In the mean time, the people in the fleet were diſtreſſed for proviſions and neceſſaries of every ſort, and were cut off from every kind of ſuccour from the ſhore. This occaſioned conſtant bickering between the armed ſhips and boats, and the forces that were ſtationed on the coaſt, particularly at Norfolk. At length, upon the arrival of the Liverpool man of war from England, a flag was ſent on ſhore, to put the queſtion, whether they would ſupply his Majeſty's ſhips with proviſions; which being anſwered in the negative, and the ſhips in the harbour being continually annoyed by the fire of the rebels from that part of the town which lay next the water, it was determined to diſlodge them by deſtroying it. Previous notice being accordingly given to the inhabitants, that they might remove from the danger, the firſt day of the new year was ſignalized by the attack, when a violent cannonade from the Liverpool frigate, two ſloops of war, and the Governor's armed ſhip the Dunmore, ſeconded by parties of the ſailors and marines, who landed and ſet fire to the neareſt houſes, ſoon produced the deſired effect, and the whole town was reduced to aſhes.

It appears from a gazette publiſhed in the Governor's ſhip, (who had removed the printing preſs and materials thither from Norfolk), that it was only intended to deſtroy that part of the town which was next the water; but that the rebels completed the deſtruction, by ſetting fire to the back and remote ſtreets, which, as the wind was in their favour, would have otherwiſe been ſafe from the fury of the flames. It is not, however, eaſy to preſcribe limits to the progreſs of a fire in ſuch, or indeed in any circumſtances. A few of thoſe who landed, as well as of the rebels, were killed and wounded.

Such was the fate of the unfortunate town of Norfolk, the moſt conſiderable for commerce in the colony, and ſo growing and flouriſhing before theſe unhappy troubles, that in the two years from 1773 to 1775, the rents of the houſes increaſed from 8000 to 10,000 pounds a year. The whole loſs is eſtimated at above 300,000l. However juſt the cauſe or urgent the neceſſity which induced this meaſure, it was undoubtedly a grievous and odious taſk to a governor, to be himſelf a principal actor, in burning and deſtroying the beſt town in his government. The rebels, after this tranſaction, to cut off every reſource from the ſhips, and partly perhaps to

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punish the well-affected, burnt and destroyed the houses and plantations within reach of the water, and obliged the people to remove, with their cattle, provisions, and portable effects, farther into the country.

Carolina.

Nor was the situation of other governors in America, much more eligible than that of Ld Dunmore. In *South Carolina*, Ld William Campbell, having, as they said, entered into a negotiation with the Indians, for coming in to the support of government in that province, and having also succeeded in exciting a number of those back settlers, whom we have heretofore seen distinguished in the Carolinas under the title of Regulators, to espouse the same cause, the discovery of these measures, before they were sufficiently ripe for execution, occasioned such a ferment among the people, that he thought it necessary to retire from Charlestown on board a ship of war in the river, from whence he returned no more to the seat of his government. In the mean time a Mr Drayton, who was judge of the superior court, and one of the most leading men in the colony, marched with a strong armed force to the back settlements; where a treaty was concluded between him and the leaders of the Regulators, in which the differences between them were attributed to misinformation, a misunderstanding of each others views and designs, and a tenderness of conscience on the side of the latter, which prevented their signing the associations, or pursuing any measures against government; but as they now engaged, neither by word nor act to impede or contravene such proceedings as should be adopted and pursued by the province in general, nor to give any information, aid, or assistance, to such British troops as should at any time arrive in it, so they were to be entirely free in their conduct otherwise, to enjoy a safe neutrality, and to suffer no molestation, for their not taking an active part in the present troubles.

The government of the province was lodged in a council of safety, consisting of thirteen persons, with the occasional assistance of a committee of ninety-nine. As they had intelligence that an armament was preparing in England, which was particularly intended against it, no means were left untried for its defence, in disciplining the forces, procuring arms and gunpowder, and particularly in fortifying and securing Charlestown.

Similar measures were pursued in *North Carolina*, with the difference that Gov. Martin was more active and vigorous in his proceedings, but was attended with as little success. The provincial congress, committees, and Governor, were in a continued state of the most violent warfare. Upon a number of charges, particularly of fomenting a civil war, and exciting an insurrection among the negroes, he was declared an enemy to America in general, and to that colony in particular, and all persons forbidden from holding any communication with him. These declarations he answered with a proclamation of uncommon length; which the provincial congress resolved to be a false, scandalous, seditious, malicious, and seditious libel, and ordered to be burnt by the hands of the common hangman.

As the Governor expected by means of the back settlers, as well as of the Scotch inhabitants and highland emigrants, who were numerous in the province, to be able to raise a considerable force, he took pains to fortify and arm his palace at Newbern, that it might answer the double purpose of a garrison and magazine. Before this could be effected, the moving of some cannon excited such a commotion among the people, that he found it necessary to abandon the palace, and retire on board a sloop of war in Cape-Fear river. The people upon this occasion discovered powder, shot, ball, and various military stores and implements, which had been buried in the palace garden and yard: this served to inflame them exceedingly, every man considering it as if it had been a plot against himself in particular.

In other respects, the province had followed the example of their neighbours in South Carolina, by establishing a council, and committees of safety, with other substitutes for a regular and permanent government. They also pursued the same methods of providing for defence, of raising, arming, and supporting forces, and of training the militia, and shewed equal vigour and eagerness in all their proceedings. The provincial congress published an address to the inhabitants of the British empire, of the same nature with those we have formerly seen to the people of Great Britain and Ireland, con-

taining the same professions of loyalty and affection, and declaring the same earnest desire of a reconciliation.

Armies. Letters of marque, Confederation, Congress, &c.

General Gage having returned in the beginning of October to England, the command in chief of the army at Boston, devolved upon General Howe, who soon after issued a proclamation, by which, such of the inhabitants as attempted to quit the town without licence, were condemned to military execution, if detected and taken; and if they escaped, to be proceeded against as traitors, by the forfeiture of their effects. By another, such as obtained permission to quit the town, were restrained by severe penalties, from carrying more than a small specified sum of money with them. He also enjoined the signing and entering into an association, by which the remaining inhabitants offered their persons for the defence of the town, and such of them as he approved of, were to be armed, formed into companies, and instructed in military exercises and discipline, the remainder being obliged to pay their quotas in money towards the common defence. {xxxvii. 662.}

As the limited term for which the soldiers in the army before Boston had enlisted, was nearly expired, a committee from the general congress, consisting of several of its most respectable members, were sent thither, to take the necessary measures, in conjunction with General Washington, for keeping it from dispanding. This, however, does not seem to have been a work of any great difficulty, the whole army having re enlisted for a year certain to come. Of all the difficulties which the Americans met, in their attempts towards the establishment of a military force, nothing affected them so grievously, or was found so hard to be remedied, as the want of gunpowder. For though they used the utmost diligence in the collecting and preparing of nitre, and in all the other parts of the manufacture, the resource from their industry in that respect, must necessarily be slow, and with regard to any considerable effect, distant. Nor had they yet opened that commerce, nor entered into those measures with foreign states, which have since procured them a supply of military articles. Indeed the scarcity of powder was so great, that it is said the troops at Bunker's-hill had not a single charge left at the end of that short engagement: and it is also said, that the weakness of the army before Boston in that respect, was at one time so great, that nothing but our ignorance of the circumstance could have saved them from being dispersed and ruined. They, however, left nothing undone to supply this defect, and among other temporary expedients, had contrived to purchase, without notice or suspicion, all the powder upon the coast of Africa, and plundered the magazine in the island of Bermuda, of above 100 barrels, which was carried off (as it was pretended) without the knowledge of the inhabitants.

In the course of the depredation, threat, and hostility, which continually occured on the sea-coasts, the town of Falmouth, in the northern part of the province of Massachuset's-Bay, was doomed to experience a share of those calamities which were afterwards dispensed in a greater degree to Norfolk in Virginia. Some particular violence or misbehaviour, relative to the loading of a mast-ship, drew the indignation of the Admiral upon this place, and occasioned an order for its destruction. The officer who commanded the ships upon this occasion, gave two hours previous notice, Oct. 17. to the inhabitants to provide for their safety, and this time was further enlarged till the next morning, under the cover of a negotiation for delivering up their artillery and small arms, at the price of saving the town. This, however, they at length, refused to comply with; but had made use of the intermediate time in removing so many of their effects as they could procure carriages for, or as the darkness and confusion of the night would admit of.

About nine o'clock in the morning, a cannonade was begun, and continued with little intermission through the day. Above 3000 shot, besides bombs and carcasses, were thrown into the town, and the sailors landed to complete the destruction, but were repulsed with the loss of a few men. The principal part of the town, (which lay next the water), consisting of about 130 dwelling-houses, 278 stores and warehouses, with a large new church, a new handsome court-house, the old town-house, with the public library, were reduced to ashes; about 100 of the worst houses, being favoured by the situation and distance, escaped destruction

ſtruction, though not without damage. Though the ſettlements in this quarter were new, being moſtly eſtabliſhed ſince the laſt war, this ſmall town was amazingly thriving, being ſituated on a fine harbour, and having a very conſiderable trade, ſo that it was computed to contain about 600 families, though little more than one third of that number of dwelling-houſes.

The deſtruction which fell upon Falmouth, probably accelerated in the aſſembly of Maſſachuſett's bay, the daring meaſure (under the pretence of protecting their coaſts) of paſſing an act, Nov. 13. for granting letters of marque and repriſal, and the eſtabliſhment of courts of admiralty, for the trial and condemnation of Britiſh ſhips. In this law they declared an intention, of only defending the coaſts and navigation of America, extending the power of capture only to ſuch ſhips as ſhould be employed in bringing ſupplies to the armies employed againſt them. [xxxvii. 663. 718.]

In the courſe of the ſummer, articles of confederation and perpetual union, between the ſeveral colonies which were already aſſociated, with liberty of admiſſion to thoſe of Quebec, St John's, Nova Scotia, the two Floridas, and Bermudas, containing rules for their general government in peace and war, both with reſpect to foreigners and each other, were drawn up by the general congreſs, and by them tranſmitted to the different colonies, for the inſpection and conſideration of their reſpective aſſemblies. If theſe articles met with their approbation, they were to empower their delegates in the enſuing general congreſs, to ratify and confirm them; and from that time, the union which they eſtabliſhed was to continue firm, until, beſides a redreſs of their grievances, reparation was made for the loſſes ſuſtained by Boſton, for the burning of Charlestown, for the expences of the war, and until the Britiſh troops were withdrawn from America. When theſe events took place, the colonies were to return to their former connections and friendſhip with Great Britain; but on failure thereof, the confederation to be perpetual. [xxxvii. 665.]

The people, however, were not yet ſufficiently irritated, nor their affections and prejudices ſufficiently broken, to accede to a confederacy, which, though conditionally framed and worded, yet led to a total ſeparation from the mother-country. For though they took up arms, and oppoſed government, ſtill it was, in general, under the hope of obtaining thereby a redreſs of grievances: and that being the nearer and more agreeable object, they would not willingly look to any thing further, eſpecially to one ſo dreadful as a total ſeparation. It required a longer time in the contemplation of real or ſuppoſed injuries, and in ſpeculations upon future, together with freſh and conſtant ſources of irritation, to arrive at that habit of vexation and hatred, which was neceſſary to break ties of ſo long a ſtanding, and to familiarize ſo new an idea.

A reſolution was alſo paſſed by the congreſs at the appearance of autumn, that as America was bleſſed with a moſt plentiful harveſt, and ſhould have a great ſuperfluity to ſpare for other nations, ſo, if the late reſtraining laws were not repealed within ſix months from the 20th of July, on which they commenced, the cuſtomhouſes ſhould be every where ſhut up, and their ports from thenceforth be open to every ſtate in Europe, (which would admit and protect their commerce,) free of all duties, and for every kind of commodity, excepting, only, teas, and the merchandiſe of Great Britain, and her dependencies. And the more to encourage foreigners to engage in trade with them, they paſſed a reſolution, that they would, to the utmoſt of their power, maintain and ſupport ſuch freedom of commerce for two years certain after its commencement, notwithſtanding any reconciliation with Great Britain, and as much longer as the preſent obnoxious laws ſhould continue [xxxvii. 667.]. They alſo immediately ſuſpended the non-importation agreement, in favour of all ſhips that ſhould bring gunpowder, nitre, ſulphur, good muſkets fitted with bayonets, or braſs field-pieces, ſuch ſhips being to be loaded in return with the full value of their cargoes. [xxxviii. 133.]

Towards the cloſe of the year, [Dec. 6.] the general congreſs publiſhed a declaration in anſwer to the royal proclamation for ſuppreſſing rebellion and ſedition, which was iſſued at St James's on the 23d of Auguſt. In this piece they combated and denied the charges of forgetting their allegiance, of treaſon, and rebellion, and took particular notice

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of the dangerous tendency, and indiſcriminate nature of a clauſe, prohibiting, under the ſevereſt penalties, the carrying on of any correſpondence from England, with any perſons in rebellion, or the aiding or abetting of ſuch. But not content with critical obſervations, they conclude with a declaration in the name of the people of the united colonies, That whatever puniſhment ſhall be inflicted upon any perſons in the power of their enemies, for favouring, aiding, or abetting, the cauſe of American liberty, ſhould be retaliated in the ſame kind, and the ſame degree, upon thoſe in their power, who have favoured, aided, or abetted, or ſhould favour, aid, or abet, the ſyſtem of miniſterial oppreſſion. [xxxviii. 18.]

SIR, *Edinburgh, Aug.* 1777.

IT has been matter of curious, altho' (in my opinion) fruitleſs inveſtigation, to find out why the number SEVEN is ſo often made uſe of in the ſacred ſcriptures. From its occurring ſo frequently, and by being affixed to events and circumſtances ſo important, ſome have been led to aſcribe to it virtues ſuperior to any other number. I am not ſo ſuperſtitious, however, as to be inclined to ſubſcribe to the opinion of thoſe who think ſo; although, from its occurring ſo often in the inſpired volume, I have been induced, as well as others, to form a variety of conjectures reſpecting it; all of which conjectures very probably are involved in the ſame labyrinth of doubt and uncertainty. Without pretending, however, to advance one reaſon (as my own opinion) why inſpiration has been pleaſed to honour that number more than any other, I here preſent you with a collection of important particulars in which the *Seventh* number appears moſt conſpicuous; and this collection I intend chiefly for the entertainment of that claſs of your readers who hold the ſacred records, not only as containing a ſyſtem of religion juſtly intitled to our moſt hearty acceptation, and as ſanctioned by the laws of the land; but as a repoſitory of the ſublimeſt ſentiments, the moſt remarkable periods, extraordinary events, ſtriking characters, and wiſeſt ſayings, that can poſſibly be exhibited to man. Full evidence of this will even appear in the few particulars now to be related.

The *ſeventh* day after the creation God reſted from all his work. Enoch, the *ſeventh* after Adam, was tranſlated into heaven. Noah entered into the ark with *ſeven* perſons, and *ſeven* pairs of all clean animals. After *ſeven* days the water fell from heaven during *ſeven* times *ſeven* days. On the *ſeventh* month the ark reſted upon the mountain of Ararat. The Rabbins ſay that God employed the power of this number to diſtinguiſh Samuel: for Hannah his mother, in her thanks to God, ſaith, "That the barren had brought forth *ſeven*." Jacob ſerved *ſeven* years for Leah, and as many for Rachel. There were *ſeven* years of plenty and as many of famine in Egypt. The wall of Jericho fell down at the ſound of Joſhua's *ſeven* trumpets, after the Iſraelites had gone *ſeven* times about it on the *ſeventh* day. Solomon ſpent *ſeven* years in building the temple. There were *ſeven* lamps in the tabernacle, typifying *ſeven* gifts of the Spirit. The Jews ate unleavened bread *ſeven* days, and as many celebrated the feaſt of tabernacles. They let their land reſt every *ſeventh* year; and after *ſeven* times *ſeven* they held their jubilee. The ſtrength of Samſon lay in *ſeven* locks of his hair. Nebuchadnezzar, for his impious pride and arrogance, was puniſhed *ſeven* years among the beaſts. Our Saviour is the *ſeventy ſeventh* in a direct line from the firſt man; and his apoſtles choſe *ſeven* deacons to aſſiſt them in their work of the miniſtry. All the myſteries of the Apocalypſe are within this number; mention being there made of *ſeven* churches, *ſeven* golden candleſticks, *ſeven* ſtars, *ſeven* lamps of fire burning before the throne, a book having *ſeven* ſeals, a lamb having *ſeven* horns and *ſeven* eyes, a woman with *ſeven* heads, a great red dragon having *ſeven* heads and *ſeven* crowns, *ſeven* kings, *ſeven* angels, *ſeven* trumpets, *ſeven* thunders, *ſeven* vials, *ſeven* plagues.

Thus have I given you a variety of particulars recorded in ſcripture, wherein the number *ſeven* makes a diſtinguiſhed appearance.

There are no doubt many more which a minuter inveſtigation might have diſcovered: but the above are ſufficient to ſhow, that this number, whether poſſeſſing a ſuperior, or only an equal virtue to any other, has been much more honoured by the Spirit of God, and may juſtly be claſſed amongſt the many peculiarities to be met with in the inſpired writings.

SEPTENARIUS.

Week. Mag.

A M E-

AMERICA. [520].

Gen. Burgoyne's inſtructions to Col. Baume when ordered upon the expedition to Bennington [519.], have ſince appeared in the Royal American Gazette, printed at New York, viz.

"THE object of your expedition is, to try the affections of the country, to diſconcert the counſels of the enemy, to mount the Rudeſſels dragoons, to complete Petre's corps, and obtain large ſupplies of cattle, horſes, and carriages.

The ſeveral corps of which the incloſed is a liſt, are to be under your command.

The troops muſt take no tents; and what little baggage is carried by the officers, muſt be on their own battalion-horſes.

You are to proceed from Battenkiln to Arlington, and take poſt there till the detachment of the provincials under the command of Capt. Sherwood, ſhall join you from the ſouthward.

You are then to proceed to Manchester, where you will again take poſt, ſo as to ſecure the paſs of the mountains, on the road from Manchester to Rockingham; from thence you will detach the Indians and light troops to the northward, towards Otter creek. On their return, and receiving intelligence that no enemy is upon the Connecticut river, you will proceed by the road over the mountains to Rockingham, where you will take poſt. This will be the moſt diſtant part of the expedition, and muſt be proceeded upon with caution, as you will have the defiles of the mountains behind you, which might make a retreat difficult. You muſt therefore endeavour to be well informed of the force of the enemy's militia in the neighbouring county: ſhould you find it may with prudence be effected, you are to remain there while the Indians and light troops are detached up the river; and you are afterwards to deſcend the river to Brattleborough; and from that place, by the quickeſt march, you are to return by the great road to Albany.

During your whole progreſs, your detachments are to have orders to bring in to you all horſes fit to mount the dragoons under your command, or to ſerve as battalion-horſes for the troops; together with as many ſaddles and bridles as can be found; the number of horſes requiſite, beſides thoſe neceſſary for mounting the regiment of dragoons, ought to be thirteen hundred; if you can bring more for the uſe of the army, ſo much the better.

Your parties are likewiſe to bring in waggons and other convenient carriages, with as many draught-oxen as will be neceſſary to draw them; and all cattle fit for ſlaughter, (milch cows excepted, which are to be left for the uſe of the inhabitants); regular receipts, in the form hitherto ſubjoined, are to be given in all places, where any of the above articles are taken, to ſuch perſons as have remained in their habitations, and otherwiſe complied with the terms of Gen. Burgoyne's manifeſto [368.]; but no receipt to be given to ſuch as are known to be acting in the ſervice of the rebels. As you will have with you perſons perfectly acquainted with the country, it may perhaps be adviſable to tax the ſeveral diſtricts with the portions of the ſeveral articles, and limit the hours for the delivery; and ſhould you find it neceſſary to move before ſuch delivery can be made, hoſtages of the moſt reſpectable people ſhould be taken to ſecure their following you the next day. All poſſible means are to be uſed to prevent plundering. As it is probable that Capt. Sherwood, who is already detached on the ſouthward, and will join you at Arlington, and will drive a conſiderable quantity of horſes and cattle to you, you will therefore ſend in theſe cattle to the army, with a proper detachment from Petre's corps to cover them, in order to diſincumber yourſelf; but you muſt always keep the regiment of dragoons compact. The dragoons themſelves muſt r•le, and take of the horſes of the regiment. The horſes that are deſvinced for the uſe of the army muſt be tied by ſtrings of ten each, in order that one man may lead ten horſes. You will give the unarmed men of Petre's corps to conduct them, and the inhabitants whom you can truſt.

You muſt always keep your camps in good poſition, but at the ſame time where there is paſture; and you muſt have a chain of ſentinels around your cattle when grazing.

Col. Skene will be with you as much as poſſible, in order to diſtinguiſh the good ſubjects from the bad, to procure the beſt intelligence of the enemy, and chuſe thoſe people who are to bring me the accounts of your progreſs and ſucceſs.

When

When you find it neceſſary to halt a day or two, you muſt always entrench the camp, of the regiment of dragoons, in order never to riſk an attack or affront from the enemy.

As you will return with the regiments of dragoons mounted, you muſt always have a detachment of Capt. Frater's or Petre's corps in front of the column, and the ſame in the rear, in order to prevent your falling into an ambuſcade when you march through the woods.

You will uſe all poſſible means to make the country believe that the troops under your command are the advanced corps of the army; and that it is intended to paſs to Connecticut, on the road to Boſton: You will likewiſe inſinuate, that the main army from Albany is to be joined at Springfield by a corps of troops from Rhode iſland.

It is highly probable that the corps under Mr Warner, now ſuppoſed to be at Manchester, will retreat before you; but ſhould they, contrary to expectation, be able to collect in great force, and poſt themſelves advantageouſly, it is left to your diſcretion to attack them or not; always bearing it in mind that your corps is too valuable to let any conſiderable loſs be hazarded on this occaſion.

Should any corps be moved from Mr Arnold's main army, in order to interrupt your retreat, you are to take as ſtrong a poſt as the country will afford, and ſend the quickeſt intelligence to me; and you may depend upon my making ſuch movements as ſhall put the enemy between two fires, or otherwiſe effectually ſuſtain you.

It is imagined the progreſs of the whole of this expedition may be effectuated in about a fortnight; but every movement of it muſt depend on your ſucceſs in obtaining ſuch ſupplies of proviſions as will enable you to ſubſiſt for your return to this army, in caſe you can get no more. And ſhould not the army be able to reach Albany before your expedition ſhould be completed, I will find means to ſend you notice of it, and give your route another direction.

All perſons acting in committees, or any officers under the direction of the congreſs, either civil or military, are to be made priſoners.

I heartily wiſh you ſucceſs, and have the honour to be, Sir, Your humble ſervant,

J. Burgoyne,
Lieut. General."

"*Admiralty-office, Nov.* 18. By letters from Sir George Collier, captain of his Majeſty's ſhip the Rainbow, to Mr Stephens, it appears, that, in order to defeat an invaſion deſigned to be made from the eaſtern parts of New England on the province of Nova Scotia, he had proceeded from Halifax in the ſhip aforementioned, with the Blonde, Mermaid, and Hope ſloop, under his command, to Machias, where he arrived the 13th of Auguſt; that having landed the marines from the ſhips the following morning, notwithſtanding the rebels kept a briſk fire of muſketry from each ſide the river, and from the fort, they advanced, and, with very little reſiſtance, took and deſtroyed the fort, three magazines conſiſting of flour, rice, tanned leather, hides, ſhoes, ammunition, &c. ſeveral ſmall veſſels, and a corn-mill, with a large quantity of corn: he alſo took a ſloop of eighty tons, laden with lumber: That, leaving the Blonde at Machias, to intercept ſome veſſels expected from Boſton with ſtores and proviſions, he then proceeded to cruiſe along the coaſts of New England and New Hampſhire, and there took and deſtroyed a ſhip ready to ſail from Sheepſcut river, with a cargo of large maſts for France, alſo three brigs, eleven ſloops, and fifteen ſchooners. He adds, that on theſe ſervices three men were killed and eighteen wounded; and that the muſket-balls fired by the rebels, and found in the king's ſhips, as well as thoſe extracted from the wounded men, were all chewed or jagged."

Sir George publiſhed a proclamation at that place, viz.

"The inhabitants of Machias, not ſatisfied with the quiet they enjoyed, whilſt a great part of America was ſuffering the inconveniencies attendant on war, have thought proper, without the leaſt provocation, ſeveral times, to invade and ravage the poſſeſſions of their innocent and peaceable neighbours (faithful ſubjects of the King) in the province of Nova Scotia, and likewiſe had the temerity, laſt winter, to inveſt a fort in the bay of Fundy belonging to his Majeſty.

Such repeated outrages cou'd not paſs unnoticed; and accordingly I thought proper to convince theſe ill-judging and miſled people, the middle of laſt month, that their harbour was acceſſible, and their town at the mercy of the men of war, if it was thought neceſſary to reduce it

it to aſhes; the Hope brig, therefore, after ſhewing the inhabitants that ſhe could proceed up to the town, in ſpite of every oppoſition they could make, was ſatisfied with doing individuals little or no damage, in the wiſh that ſuch cruel and injurious inroads might never be repeated by them in future.

The gracious and benevolent diſpoſition of his Majeſty towards all his ſubjects, even his miſguided ones, makes the King's officers extremely averſe to deſtroying private property: this has been manifeſted upon many occaſions, during the courſe of this unhappy rebellion, but more particularly at Machias and Townſend, in which harbours, though the King's ſhips lay ſurrounded with farm-houſes and plantations, yet not the leaſt damage was permitted to be done to any one.

In order, however, that ſuch lenity and forbearance may be properly underſtood, as well as to let all his Majeſty's ſubjects in the eaſtern part of New England know what they have to truſt to in future, I think proper to declare, That if any more preparations ſhould be made in thoſe parts, for ravaging and invading the province of Nova Scotia, or that the inhabitants ſhould be collecting themſelves together for ſuch villanous purpoſe, the conſequence will inevitably be, laying in aſhes every houſe, mill, ſtorehouſe, and other buildings belonging to them; of which the inhabitants of Machias, Narraguages, Goldſborough, and all the neighbouring places on and near the ſea-coaſt, are to take notice: beſides which, they will have their harbours effectually blocked up by the ſhips and veſſels of his Majeſty; ſo that no trade whatever (not even of fiſhing-boats) ſhall be carried on any more, till the end of the preſent rebellion.

With generous caution before them, the inhabitants of the above-mentioned places, and neighbouring ones, will act as they think proper; but they muſt remember, if they draw the threatened puniſhment, that they have no body to blame for it but themſelves.

And in order by every proper method to induce the King's ſubjects in New England to live inoffenſively and peaceably, I hereby declare, that if they do ſo, his Majeſty's cruiſers will have orders, not to injure or moleſt the fiſhermen in their occupation of catching fiſh; provided their veſſels carry no arms, and the number of men do not exceed eight in any one of them.

Given on board his Majeſty's ſhip Rainbow, in the harbour of *Townſend*, Sept. 1. 1777.

GEORGE COLLIER.

"To the inhabitants of Machias, Narraguages, Goldſborough, and all the other towns in the neighbourhood on the ſeacoaſt, &c."

"*New York, Aug.* 25. Laſt Tueſday evening, Col. Dungan and Major Drummond, of the third battalion of the New-Jerſey volunteers, with about ſixty men, ſet out from Staten iſland for New Jerſey, marched about twenty-ſeven miles into the interior parts of the province, and brought off fourteen priſoners, ſixty-two head of cattle, nine horſes, upwards of twenty ſtand of arms, and deſtroyed ſome powder and ſhot, ſalt, rum, &c. The Colonel on his return marched to Amboy; and during the time the cattle, horſes, &c. were paſſing the ferry to Staten iſland, he kept two pickets at the firſt-mentioned place, with ſeveral out-centries, to watch the motions of the enemy. The rebel light horſe, under the command of Dr Barnet, of Eliſabeth-town, made their appearance on the heights near Amboy; but upon diſcovering the Jerſey volunteers ſo well poſted, thought proper to keep at a diſtance, and, to their great mortification, beheld Col. Dungan, with all his men, ſafe at Staten iſland, with their priſoners and cattle.

About ſun-riſe laſt Friday morning, a large body of the rebels, ſuppoſed about 1500, landed in three diviſions on the weſt and north ſides of Staten iſland, under the command of Lord Stirling, Mr Sullivan, and a French officer. They marched to Deck's ferry, where they burnt about thirty-five tons of hay, routed part of Col. Barton's battalion quartered there, and took him priſoner. But Brig.-Gen. Campbell, (commander of his Majeſty's troops on the iſland), and Gen. Skinner, coming up, with the Britiſh troops and Auxiliaries, the rebels ſoon were put to flight, with the loſs of 200 killed and 300 made priſoners, when the night facilitated the retreat of the reſt of the party. Our loſs is no more than fifty killed, wounded, and priſoners. Col. Dungan and Major Timpaney, of the new troops, (both brave officers), are wounded: we are told the former is in a fair way to recover.

The ſame day an attack was made on King's-bridge by about 3000 of the rebels, when a part of the army at that place marched out, beat them back, purſued them ſix miles, and took a captain-lieutenant and twelve privates priſoners.

The ſame day, likewiſe, Gen. Parſons, from Connecticut, landed 500 men from on board three privateers, at Satacut, (ſituate on the north ſide of Long iſland, about ſixty miles from this city), with ſeveral pieces of braſs cannon, and ſummoned the ſmall fort at that place to ſurrender. The commander, Col. Hewlett, deſired one hour to conſider of the matter; when he was allowed only ten minutes. His anſwer was, He would defend the fort for his Majeſty King George III. as long as he had a man alive. A ſmart fire immediately enſued: but the rebels were ſoon obliged to embark, ſeveral of them being killed and wounded, as much blood was ſeen in their incampment after they were gone away. We had one man killed, and two or three wounded."

"*Head Quarters, Morris-houſe, Aug.* 24.

A detachment of the rebel light horſe having carried off, on Thurſday morning laſt, part of the piquet at Valentine hall, through the negligence of the officer commanding that out-poſt; the General deſires to return his thanks to Maj.-Gen. Tryon, then General of the day, for the diſpoſition he made to check the further inſult of the enemy, who were lurking in ſome force about our outports near King's-bridge.

The General likewiſe deſires particularly to expreſs his approbation of the ſpirited behaviour and good conduct of Lt-Col. Hewlett, and the officers and men under his command, in the defence of the redoubt at Saltacket upon Long iſland, in which Lt Col. Hewlett was attacked by a large body of the enemy with cannon, which he repelled with diſgrace.

Brig.-Gen. Campbell has reported to the General, that on the day before yeſterday, a body of about 2000, having landed on Staten iſland, and ſurpriſed a piquet, he had marched againſt them with the 52d regiment, the regiment of Waldeck, and provincial corps, had defeated them with great ſlaughter, and entirely driven them off the iſland. The loſs of the enemy ſhall be made known to the army when it is more particularly aſcertained.

The General wiſhes to expreſs his high ſenſe of the great knowledge of his profeſſion, and truly ſoldier like deciſion, manifeſted by Brig.-Gen. Campbell throughout this affair.

The diſtinguiſhed behaviour of Lt-Col. Campbell of the 52d regiment, merits the warmeſt acknowledgements: the General returns his thanks in the ſtrongeſt manner to him, and the other officers and men of that regiment, who have ſo remarkably added to the numerous examples this war has produced, that no ſuperiority of numbers can withſtand Britons, when they attack in earneſt with the bayonet.

The General deſires Col. Hanaleden, and the regiment of Waldeck, to accept his thanks for the zeal and alertneſs they ſhewed upon this occaſion.

The behaviour of the provincial corps, and their officers, does them very great honour, and the General begs leave they may be aſſured he feels it very ſenſibly. The General only waits for a more particular report from Brig.-Gen. Campbell, to mark ſuch officers as diſtinguiſhed themſelves, and are not already mentioned.

STEPHEN KEMBLE, D. A. G."

"*Philadelphia, Sept.* 3.—"In congreſs, Sept. 1. 1777. Reſolved, That Gen. Waſhington be directed to appoint a court of inquiry relative to the late expedition by Gen. Sullivan againſt the Britiſh forces on Staten iſland. WM CH. HOUSTON, Dep. Sec."

Congreſs proceeded, Aug. 28. to the election of a committee to collect evidence and facts reſpecting the evacuation of Ticonderoga; and the ballot being taken, Mr Laurens, Mr R. Henry Lloyde, and Mr John Adams, were elected.

"*New York, Sept.* 13. Yeſterday morning, Gen. Clinton, with near 5000 men, landed, in four diviſions, one at Fort Lee, one at Greenwich, one from Paulis Hook, and one from Staten iſland at Eliſabeth-town, all in the Jerſeys. The rebels made no reſiſtance but at Eliſabeth-town: there, however, they ſoon fled. We loſt, I think, four killed, and ſix wounded, all privates. They now drive all before them in that quarter; and, it is generally thought, they will carry all before them to the banks of the Delaware; and, in caſe Waſhington is defeated, he will be cut off from his ſtrong hold at Morris-town."

Laſt ſummer a ſupply of 4000 blankets was

was demanded from the province of Pennſylvania for the provincial army; and they were raiſed in the following proportions: The city and the county of Philadelphia, 667 each; the counties of Cheſter, Lancaſter, and York, 500 each; Bucks, Berks, and Cumberland, 333 each; and Northampton, 167.

Preparations were early made in Philadelphia for defence. Committees of their war-office were aſſembled for the removal of proviſions and ſtores from the city; commiſſaries were nominated to receive theſe ſtores, and be accountable for them to the owners; no flour was ſuffered to remain in the city, but ſuch a quantity as was abſolutely neceſſary for the ſuſtenance of the inhabitants; the city was divided into four wards, and a general muſter of the perſons capable to bear arms in each was taken.

A gentleman who arrived at London from Pennſylvania in the beginning of October, reported, that as ſoon as the approach of the Britiſh fleet and army was known at Philadelphia, the aſſembly met, and paſſed a teſt-act, the moſt material parts of which are, ſtrict injunctions to all perſons capable of bearing arms, from eighteen to ſixty years of age, to take an oath of fealty and attachment to the United States, within three days, on pain of being publicly whipped, with every mark of public degradation, nor to be permitted to leave the province without a paſs, or ſuffered to carry on any kind of trade or buſineſs. When this oppreſſive act paſſed, the Howes were within forty miles of the city; and when the gentleman came away, about 1500 perſons only had ſubſcribed as above.

As no accounts had been received from Gen. Howe ſince his letters of July 5. & 15. inſerted in the gazette of Aug. 23. the public were become impatient; but they were in ſome meaſure relieved by a letter from his Excellency to Ld George Germaine, received Oct. 28. by the Swallow packet from Maryland, and publiſhed in the gazette of Nov. 1. (from which gazette we have already [518.] inſerted Gen. Burgoyne's letter), viz.

"*Camp at the head of the Elk, Aug.* 30. 1777.

My Lord,

THE duplicates of your Lordſhip's diſpatches, N° 10. 11. and 12. with an original, N° 13. I had the honour to receive on the 16th inſtant, by the Eagle packet.

My laſt diſpatches [409] adviſed your Lordſhip of the imbarkation of the army at Staten iſland; from whence the fleet ſailed on the 23d of July, and arrived off the Capes of Delaware on the 30th following; when, from information, I judged it moſt adviſable to proceed to Cheſapeak-bay: but, meeting with conſtant unfavourable winds, we did not enter the bay until the 16th inſtant; from which time the winds proving fair, the fleet arrived at the mouth of Elk river on the 22d, through a very difficult navigation; and the army landed on the 25th at Elk ferry, the enemy's army being then in the neighbourhood of Philadelphia.

On the 28th a corps of the army marched from the Ferry to this place, by the weſt ſide of the river, leaving Lt-Gen. Knyphauſen with three brigades in that camp, and one brigade on the communication.

The corps commanded by Gen. Knyphauſen will croſs the Ferry to Cecil court-houſe to-morrow, and is to form a junction with this on the 3d next enſuing, about eight miles on this ſide of Chriſtien bridge.

The enemy's army is at this time encamped behind Brandy-wine creek, with an advanced corps on White-clay creek. Their force conſiſts of about 15,000 men, including militia: nevertheleſs I am of opinion it will be a difficult matter to bring them to a general action, even though it ſhould be in the defence of Philadelphia.

The incloſed Declaration I have publiſhed, to endeavour to quiet the minds of the people at large in Pennſylvania, and the counties to which it has relation, led aſtray by the leaders in rebellion.

By his Excellency Sir William Howe, K. B. General and Commander in Chief, &c. &c. &c.

DECLARATION.

"SIR William Howe, regretting the calamities to which many of his Majeſty's faithful ſubjects are ſtill expoſed by the continuance of the rebellion, and no leſs deſirous of protecting the innocent, than determined to purſue with the rigours of war all thoſe whom his Majeſty's forces, in the courſe of their progreſs, may find in arms againſt the King, doth hereby aſſure the peaceable inhabitants of the province of Pennſylvania, the Lower Counties on Delaware,

and the Counties of Maryland on the eaſtern ſhore of Cheſapeak bay. That, in order to remove any groundleſs apprehenſions which may have been raiſed, of their ſuffering by depredations of the army under his command, he hath iſſued the ſtricteſt orders to the troops for the preſervation of regularity and good diſcipline, and has ſignified, that the moſt exemplary puniſhment ſhall be inflicted upon thoſe who ſhall dare to plunder the property, or moleſt the perſons, of any of his Majeſty's well diſpoſed ſubjects.

Security and protection are likewiſe extended to all perſons, inhabitants of the province and counties aforeſaid, who, not guilty of having aſſumed legiſlative or judicial authority, may have acted illegally in ſubordinate ſtations, and, conſcious of their miſconduct, been induced to leave their dwellings; provided ſuch perſons do forthwith return, and remain peaceably at their uſual places of abode.

Conſidering, moreover, that many officers and private men now actually in arms againſt his Majeſty, may be willing to relinquiſh the part they have taken in this rebellion, and return to their due allegiance, Sir William Howe doth therefore promiſe a free and general pardon to all ſuch officers and private men, as ſhall voluntarily come and ſurrender themſelves to any detachment of his Majeſty's forces, before the day on which it ſhall be notified that the ſaid indulgence is to be diſcontinued.

Given under my hand, at Head Quarters of the Army, the 27th day of Auguſt, 1777.

W. HOWE.

By his Excellency's command,

ROBERT MACKENZIE. Secretary."

The ſame gazette contains a letter from Lord Howe, viz.

"*Admiralty-office, Nov.* 1. The following is an extract of a letter from Ld Viſc. Howe, commander in chief of his Majeſty's ſhips and veſſels in North America, to Mr Stephens, received the 28th of laſt month, by the Swallow packet from Maryland.

"*Eagle, Elk river, Aug.* 28. 1777.

SIR,

I informed you in my laſt letter, of the 9th of July, that the part of the army intended by the General for a particular ſervice was embarked.

I put to ſea from Sandyhook with the fleet, conſiſting in the whole of 267 ſail, the 23d of the ſame month, being the earlieſt opportunity the weather would admit; but having frequent calms, and otherwiſe conſtant ſouth-weſt and ſoutherly winds in the mean time, the progreſs of the armament was ſo much retarded, that we were not advanced along the coaſt ſo far as the Delaware before the 29th, nor off the Capes of Virginia, the deſtination of the fleet, until the 14th inſtant.

The wind then changing to the eaſtward, the fleet proceeded on, and anchored next day within the entrance of Cheſapeak bay. By the attention of Capt. Griffith, commanding in the rear, and the general good diſpoſition of the maſters of the tranſports, the paſſage was effected without ſeparation.

Capt. Harnond, who had acquired a very correct knowledge of the navigation, was withdrawn from the Delaware, the Roebuck being replaced by the Liverpool, and charged with the care of ſtationing proper pilot-veſſels to mark out the channel up the Cheſapeak bay. The fleet, with that, and the further aſſiſtance of good pilots, being ſafely conducted up to the head of the bay, anchored between the Saſafras and Elk rivers the 22d.

Having attended the General to reconnoitre the adjacent ſhores next day, the deſcent was fixed to be made on the 25th in the Elk.

The debarkation of the army was to be made on this occaſion in five diviſions, correſpondent to the number of men which could be regularly landed from the flat-boats at the ſame time.

The covering ſhips, conſiſting of the Roebuck, with the Apollo, Sphynx, Vigilant, Senegal, and Swift, moving up the river in the morning of the 25th, the flat-boats, under the chief command of Capt. Duncan, with the infantry of the firſt diviſion, advanced, and were followed in ſucceſſion by the tranſports of the ſecond and third diviſions.

No preparation being made to oppoſe the deſcent, the tranſports of the other diviſions were alſo ordered forward; and the whole army, with the neceſſary proportion of artillery and ſtores, were landed the ſame day on the northern ſhore oppoſite to Cecil court-houſe, about ſix miles from Turkey point."

The following liſt is given of the army and fleet that ſailed from New York.

Britiſh troops. The 4th, 5th, 10th, 15th,

15th, 16th, 17th, 23d, 27th, 28th, 37th, 40th, 42d, 44th, 46th, 49th, 55th, 64th, and 71st regiments, a brigade of guards, Holland's corps of guides, the Queen's regiment of rangers, and Burgoyne's light horse.

Foreign troops. Linzing's grenadiers, Minnigor's ditto, Sognal's ditto, Law's battalion, Des Corps, Donop's battalion, Merbeck's ditto, Chasseurs, a battalion of Anspach, and Yagers.

Fleet. Eagle, 64 guns, (Flag ship); Nonsuch, 64 g. (Commodore); Raisonable, 64 g (left at the mouth of Potowmack); Somerset, 70 g.; Isis, 50 g.; Roebuck, 44 g. (joined off Delaware); Apollo, 32 g.; Richmond, 32 g.; Liverpool, 28 g.; (left at Cape Henlopen); Sphynx, 20 g.; Senegal; Dispatch; Swift; Strombolo fireship; armed tenders, transports, victuallers, ordnance-ships, &c. in all 280 sail.

This armament sailed from Sandyhook the 23d of July, arrived off Delaware bay on the 31st. From calms and south winds the fleet arrived not at the Capes of Chesapeak bay till the 14th of August; anchored within the Capes on the 15th; 16th, stood up the bay; and that day the Sphynx took a brig from James river, with 150 hogsheads of tobacco on board; the tobacco generously given to the sailors; the 24th, 25th, and 26th, the army, with provisions, stores, &c. were landed.

"*Philadelphia, Sept.* 2. All the officers and soldiers in this city belonging to the continental army, whose duty it is to be at this time with their respective corps, are desired to attend to-morrow morning at ten o'clock, at the barrack, in order to set off for camp. Major Cropper is going with a party, and it is expected that the officers and men going will join them as aforesaid."

A proclamation was published in the Maryland Journal of Aug. 26. viz.

By his Excellency Thomas Johnson, Esq; Governor of the State of Maryland,

PROCLAMATION.

THIS state being now actually invaded by a formidable land and sea force, and the enemy, in all probability, designing to land somewhere near the head of this bay, I have, in order to collect a body of militia, to be ready to act with the continental army, which may soon be expected to meet the enemy, thought proper to issue this my proclamation, hereby requiring and commanding the county-lieutenants, the field and other proper officers of the militia of the western shore of this state, immediately to march, at least two full companies of each battalion of the militia, to the neighbourhood of the Susquehanna river, in Cecil and Hartford counties, where they shall receive orders. To defend our liberties, requires our exertions; our wives, our children, and our country, implore our assistance: motives amply sufficient to arm every one who can be called a man.

Given at Annapolis, this 22d day of August 1777. T. JOHNSON."

About the middle of October, accounts had reached London, by the way of France, of the British armament being in Chesapeak bay; but no letters were received from Gen. Howe till the 28th of October, and these appeared in the London gazette, of Nov. 1. as above inserted [595.]. — By the Charlotte, Watson, from New York, which arrived at Port-Glasgow on the 29th of October, (before the publication of Gen. Howe's letter), was received the New-York Gazette of Sept. 22. which contained a letter from Gen. Washington to the congress, and which was published at Edinburgh next day (being Thursday, on which no newspaper is published in that city) in what is called an *Extraordinary* paper, by the publishers of the Edinburgh Courant, Caledonian Mercury, and Edinburgh Advertiser, viz.

"*Chester, Sept.* 11. *two o'clock at night.*

SIR,

I am sorry to inform you, that, in this day's engagement, we have been obliged to leave the enemy masters of the field. Unfortunately the intelligence received of the enemy's advancing up the Brandywine, and crossing the ford about six miles above us, was uncertain and contradictory, notwithstanding all my pains to get the best. This prevented my making a disposition adequate to the force with which the enemy attacked us on our right; in consequence of which, the troops first engaged were obliged to retire before they could be reinforced.

In the midst of the attack on the right, that body of the enemy which remained on the side of Chad's ford, crossed it, and attacked the division there under the command of Gen. Wayne, and the light troops under Gen. Maxwell; who, after a severe conflict, also retired.

The

The militia under Gen. Armſtrong, being poſted at a ford about two miles below Chad, had no opportunity of engaging; but we fought under many diſadvantages, and were, from the cauſes above mentioned, obliged to retire. Yet our loſs of men is not, I am perſuaded, very conſiderable; I believe much leſs than that of the enemy. We have alſo loſt eight pieces of cannon, according to the beſt information I can at preſent obtain. The baggage, having previouſly moved off, is all ſaved, except the mens blankets, which being at their backs, many of them, doubtleſs, were loſt. I have directed all the troops to aſſemble behind Cheſter, where they are now arraying for this night. Notwithſtanding the misfortune of the day, I am happy to find the troops in good ſpirits; and I hope another time we ſhall compenſate for the loſs we have ſuſtained. The Marquis La Fayette is wounded in the leg, and Gen. Woodford in the hand. Divers other officers are wounded, and ſome ſlain; but the number of either cannot now be aſcertained.

I have the honour to be, &c.
G. Washington.

P. S. It is not in my power to ſend you certain intelligence, the preſent being the firſt leiſure-moment I have had ſince the action."

Publiſhed by order of the Congreſs,
Charles Thompson, Secretary."

Though the above letter bore to be *publiſhed by order of the Congreſs*, yet doubts were entertained by ſome perſons of its authenticity; and more than a month elapſed before any more letters were received from Gen. Howe.——At laſt the long-expected letters arrived;—[P. S.] and they appeared in a London Gazette Extraordinary of Dec. 2. viz.

"*Whitehall, Dec.* 2. Yeſterday morning, Major Cuyler, firſt aid-du-camp to General Sir William Howe, arrived from Philadelphia, with diſpatches to Lord George Germaine; of which the following are copies and extracts.

Copy of a letter, dated, Head Quarters, German-town, Oct. 10. 1777.

"My Lord,

In my laſt diſpatch of the 30th of Auguſt [595.], I had the honour to adviſe your Lordſhip of the army having landed on the weſt ſide of Elk river, and of its being afterwards divided into two columns; one under the command of Lord Cornwallis at the head of Elk, and the other commanded by Lt Gen. Knyphauſen at Cecil court-houſe: I am therefore to give your Lordſhip an account of the operations from that period, wherein will be included two general actions, in both of which I have the ſatisfaction to premiſe, that ſucceſs has attended his Majeſty's arms.

On the 3d of September, Maj.-Gen. Grant with ſix battalions remaining at the head of Elk to preſerve the communication with the fleet, the two columns joined at Pencadder, lying four miles to the eaſtward of Elk, on the road to Chriſtien bridge. In this day's march the Heſſian and Anſpach chaſſeurs, and the 2d battalion of light infantry, who were at the head of Lord Cornwallis's column, fell in with a choſen corps of 1000 men from the enemy's army, advantageouſly poſted in the woods; which they defeated, with the loſs of only two officers wounded, three men killed, and nineteen wounded, when that of the enemy was not leſs than fifty killed, and many more wounded.

On the 6th Maj.-Gen. Grant, after Capt. Duncan, who ſuperintended the naval department, had deſtroyed ſuch veſſels and ſtores as could not be removed from the head of Elk, joined the army.

The whole marched on the 8th by Newark, and encamped that evening in the townſhip of Hokeſſin, upon the road leading from Newport to Lancaſter; at which firſt place Gen. Waſhington had taken poſt, having his left to Chriſtien creek, and his front covered by Red-Clay creek.

The two armies in this ſituation being only four miles apart, the enemy moved early in the night of the 8th by the Lancaſter road from Wilmington, and about ten o' clock next morning croſſed Brandywine creek at Chad's ford, taking poſt on the heights on the eaſtern ſide of it.

On the 9th in the afternoon Lt Gen. Knyphauſen marched with the left of the army to New Garden and Kennet's Square, while Lord Cornwallis with the right moved to Hokeſſen's meeting-houſe, and both joined the next morning at Kennet's Square.

On the 11th at day-break the army advanced in two columns: the right commanded by Lt-Gen. Knyphauſen, conſiſting of four Heſſian battalions under Maj.-Gen. Stern, the 1ſt and 2d bri-

gades

gades of Britiſh, three battalions of the 71ſt regiment, the Queen's American rangers, and one ſquadron of the 16th dragoons under Maj.-Gen. Grant, having with them ſix medium twelve-pounders, four howitzers, and the light artillery belonging to the brigades. This column took the direct road to Chad's ford, ſeven miles diſtant from Kennet's Square, and arrived in front of the enemy about ten o' clock, ſkirmiſhing moſt part of the march with their advanced troops, in which the Queen's rangers, commanded by Capt. Wemyſs of the 40th regiment, diſtinguiſhed themſelves in a particular manner.

The other column, under the command of Lord Cornwallis, Maj.-Gen. Grey, Brig.-Gen^{s} Mathew and Agnew, conſiſting of the mounted and diſmounted chaſſeurs, two ſquadrons of the 16th dragoons, two battalions of light infantry, two battalions of Britiſh and three of Heſſian grenadiers, two battalions of guards, the 3d and 4th brigades, with four light twelve-pounders, and the artillery of the brigades, marched about twelve miles to the Forks of the Brandywine, croſſed the firſt branch at Trimble's ford, and the ſecond at Jeffery's ford, about two o' clock in the afternoon, taking from thence the road to Dilworth, in order to turn the enemy's right at Chad's ford.

Gen. Waſhington, having intelligence of this movement about noon, detached Gen. Sullivan to his right with near 10,000 men, who took a ſtrong poſition on the commanding ground above Birmingham church, with his left near to the Brandywine, both flanks being covered by very thick woods, and his artillery advantageouſly diſpoſed.

As ſoon as this was obſerved, which was about four o' clock, the King's troops advanced in three columns, and upon approaching the enemy, formed the line with the right towards the Brandywine; the guards being upon the right, and the Britiſh grenadiers upon their left, ſupported by the Heſſian grenadiers in a ſecond line. To the left of the centre were the two battalions of light infantry, with the Heſſian and Anſpach chaſſeurs, ſupported by the 4th brigade.—The 3d brigade formed the reſerve.

Ld Cornwallis having formed the line, the light infantry and chaſſeurs began the attack: the guards and grenadiers inſtantly advanced from the right, the whole under a heavy fire of artillery and muſketry; but they puſhed on with an impetuoſity not to be ſuſtained by the enemy; who falling back into the woods in their rear, the King's troops entered with them, and purſued cloſely for near two miles.

After this ſucceſs a part of the enemy's right took a ſecond poſition in a wood about half a mile from Dilworth; from whence the 2d light infantry and chaſſeurs ſoon diſlodged them; and from this time they did not rally again in force.

The firſt Britiſh grenadiers, the Heſſian grenadiers, and guards, having in the purſuit got intangled in very thick woods, were no further engaged during the day.

The 2d light infantry, 2d grenadiers, and 4th brigade, moved forward a mile beyond Dilworth, where they attacked a corps of the enemy that had not been before engaged, and were ſtrongly poſted to cover the retreat of their army by the roads from Chad's ford to Cheſter and Wilmington; which corps not being forced until after it was dark, when the troops had undergone much fatigue, in a march of ſeventeen miles, beſides what they ſupported ſince the commencement of the attack, the enemy eſcaped a total overthrow, that muſt have been the conſequence of an hour's more day-light.

The 3d brigade was not brought into action, but kept in reſerve in the rear of the 4th brigade, it not being known before it was dark how far Lt-Gen. Knyphauſen's attack had ſucceeded; nor was there an opportunity of employing the cavalry.

Lt-Gen. Knyphauſen, as had been previouſly concerted, kept the enemy amuſed in the courſe of the day, with cannon, and the appearance of forcing the ford, without intending to paſs it until the attack upon the enemy's right ſhould take place. Accordingly, when it began, Maj.-Gen. Grant croſſed the ford with the 4th and 5th regiments; and the 4th regiment paſſing firſt, forced the enemy from an entrenchment and battery, where three braſs field-pieces and a five and half inch howitzer were taken, that had been placed there to command the ford. The enemy made little ſtand on that ſide after the work was carried, when the guards appearing on their right flank, the retreat became general; but darkneſs coming on before Lt-Gen. Knyphauſen's corps could reach the

heights,

heights, there was no further action on that side.

From the most correct accounts, I conclude, the strength of the enemy's army opposed to Lt-Gen. Knyphausen and Ld Cornwallis, was not less than 15,000 men; a part of which retired to Chester, and remained there that night; but the greater body did not stop until they reached Philadelphia. Their loss was considerable in officers killed and wounded; and they had about 300 men killed, 600 wounded, and near 400 made prisoners.

The loss on the side of his Majesty's troops, and the ordnance, ammunition, and stores taken from the enemy, will appear in the inclosed returns.

The army laid this night on the field of battle, and on the 12th Maj.-Gen. Grant, with the 1st and 2d brigades, marched to Concord. Ld Cornwallis, with the light infantry and British grenadiers, joined him next day, and proceeded to Ash-town, within five miles of Chester.

On the same day (the 13th) the 71st regiment was detached to Wilmington, where the enemy had thrown up works, both to the land and to the river, with seven pieces of cannon in the latter; but these works being evacuated, Maj. M'Donell took possession of the place without opposition, and made Mr M'Kinley, the new-appointed president of the Lower Counties on Delaware, his prisoner.

On the 14th Lt-Col. Loos, with the combined battalion of Rhall's brigade, escorted the wounded and sick to Wilmington, whither the battalion of Mirbach was sent two days after to join him.

The army moved in two columns towards Goshen on the 16th; and intelligence being received upon the march, that the enemy was advancing upon the Lancaster road, and were within five miles of Goshen, it was immediately determined to push forward the two columns, and attack them; Ld Cornwallis to take his route by Goshen meeting-house, and Lt-Gen. Knyphausen by the road to Downing-town.

The two divisions proceeded on their march; but a most violent fall of rain setting in, and continuing the whole day and night without intermission, made the intended attack impracticable.

The first light infantry, at the head of Ld Cornwallis's column, meeting with a part of the enemy's advanced guard, about a mile beyond Goshen, defeated them, killing twelve, and wounding more, without the loss of a man.

Nearly at the same time the chasseurs in front of Lt-Gen. Knyphausen's column fell in with another party, of which they killed an officer and five men, and took four officers prisoners, with the loss of three men wounded.

The enemy being thus apprised of the approach of the army, marched with the utmost precipitation the whole night of the 16th, and got in the morning to the Yellow Springs; having, as is since known, all their small ammunition damaged by the excessive rain.

In the evening of the 17th, Ld Cornwallis advanced to the Lancaster road, and took post about two miles distant from Lt-Gen. Knyphausen.

The army joined in the Lancaster road at the White-horse on the 18th, and marched to Trudruffin, from whence a detachment of light infantry was immediately sent to the Valley Ferge upon Schuylkill, where the enemy had a variety of stores, and a considerable magazine of flour. The 1st battalion of light infantry and the British grenadiers took post there next day, and were joined on the 20th by the guards.

The enemy crossed the Schuylkill on the 18th, above French creek, and encamped upon the river, on each side of Perkyomy creek, having detached troops to all the fords of Schuylkill, with cannon at Swedes ford and the fords below it.

Upon intelligence that Gen. Wayne was lying in the woods with a corps of 1500 men, and four pieces of cannon, about three miles distant, and in the rear of the left wing of the army, Maj.-Gen. Grey was detached on the 20th late at night, with the 2d light infantry, the 42d and 44th regiments, to surprise this corps. The most effectual precaution being taken by the General to prevent his detachment from firing, he gained the enemy's left about one o'clock; and having, by the bayonet only, forced their out-centries and piquets, he rushed in upon their encampment, directed by the light of their fires, killed and wounded not less than 300 on the spot, taking between 70 and 80 prisoners, including several officers, the greater part of their arms, and eight waggons loaded with baggage and stores. Upon the first alarm,

larm, the cannon were carried off, and the darkneſs of the night only ſaved the remainder of the corps. One captain of light infantry and three men were killed in the attack, and four men wounded. Gallantry in the troops, and good conduct in the General, were fully manifeſted upon this critical ſervice.

On the 21ſt the army moved by Valley Forge, and encamped upon the banks of Schuylkill, extending from Fat-land ford to French creek. The enemy upon this movement quitted their poſition, and marched towards Pottſgrove in the evening of this day.

On the 22d the grenadiers and light infantry of the guards croſſed over in the afternoon at Fat-land ford to take poſt; and the chaſſeurs croſſing ſoon after at Gordon's ford, oppoſite to the left of the line, took poſt there alſo. The army was put in motion at midnight, the vanguard being led by Lord Cornwallis; and the whole croſſed the river at Fat-land ford without oppoſition. Maj.-Gen. Grant, who commanded the rear-guard with the baggage, paſſed the river before two o'clock in the afternoon; and the army encamped on the 23d, with its left to the Schuylkill, and the right upon the Monatomy road, having Stony Run in front. The ſecond battalion of light infantry was detached to Swedes ford; which a ſmall party of the enemy quitted immediately, leaving ſix pieces of iron cannon behind them.

On the 25th the army marched in two columns to German-town; and Lord Cornwallis, with the Britiſh grenadiers, and two battalions of Heſſian grenadiers, took poſſeſſion of Philadelphia the next morning.

In the evening of the 26th, three batteries for ſix medium twelve pounders and four howitzers were begun at Philadelphia, to act againſt the enemy's ſhipping and craft that might approach the town. Theſe batteries were finiſhed on the 27th, when two frigates, a number of gallies, gondolas, and other armed veſſels, came up from Mud iſland, and attacked the lower battery of two guns, and two howitzers. The largeſt frigate called the Delaware, mounting thirty guns, anchored within 300 yards of the battery, and the other frigate ſomewhat more diſtant; the gallies, gondolas, and other veſſels, taking their reſpective ſtations as they could bring their guns to bear. About ten in the morning, they began a heavy cannonade upon the town as well as the battery; but the tide falling, the Delaware grounded: upon which, the four battalion-guns of the grenadiers being brought to bear upon her to the greateſt advantage, they did ſuch execution in a ſhort time, that ſhe ſtruck her colours, and was taken poſſeſſion of by the marine company of grenadiers, commanded by Capt. Averne.

Brig-Gen. Cleveland, who attended the batteries in perſon, ſeeing the effect of the battalion guns upon the Delaware, turned the direction of his fire to the ſmaller frigate and armed veſſels; which forced all of them, excepting a ſchooner, that was diſabled, and driven on ſhore, to return to their former ſituation, under the protection of the fort, where there were two floating batteries in the manner of hulks, of conſiderable ſtrength, with three ranges of ſunken machines, which they term *chevaux de frize*, to obſtruct the paſſage of the river, the loweſt row being three miles below the fort.

The enemy had a redoubt upon the Jerſey ſhore, at a place called *Billing's Point*, with heavy guns in it, to prevent theſe machines from being weighed up.

Upon the repreſentation of Capt. Hammond, commanding His Majeſty's ſhip Roebuck, who was lying off Cheſter with ſome other ſhips of war, that the poſſeſſion of billing's Point would give him the lower chevaux de frize, the 10th and 42d regiments were detached on the 29th, under the command of Lt-Col. Stirling. This detachment croſſing the river next day from Cheſter, took poſſeſſion on the 2ſt of October of the enemy's works at the point, which three hundred men poſted there evacuated, after ſpiking the guns and burning the barracks. Lt-Col. Stirling purſued them about two miles, but to little purpoſe, as they retired with the greateſt precipitation. Capt. Hammond immediately opened the navigation at that place, by removing a part of the chevaux de frize.

On the 3d the regiment of Royal Welch fuziliers was detached to Philadelphia, with orders to proceed next day to Cheſter, where they were to be joined by the 10th and 42d regiments on their return from Jerſey, and to form an eſcort for a convoy of proviſions to the army.

The enemy having received a reinforcement of 1500 men from Peek's kill,

1000 from Virginia, and presuming upon the army being much weakened by the detachments to Philadelphia and Jersey, thought it a favourable time for them to risk an action. They accordingly marched at six o'clock in the evening of the 3d, from their camp, near Skippach creek, about sixteen miles from German-town.

This village forms one continued street for two miles, which the line of incampment, in the position the army then occupied, crossed at right angles near a mile from the head of it, where the 2d battalion of light infantry and the 40th regiment were posted.

In this line of encampment Lt-Gen. Knyphausen, Maj-Gen. Stern and Grey, Brig-Gen. Agnew, with seven British and three Hessian battalions, the mounted and dismounted chasseurs, were upon the left of the village extending to the Schuylkill, the chasseurs being in front.

Maj-Gen. Grant and Brig-Gen. Mathew, with the corps of guards, six battalions of British, and two squadrons of dragoons, were upon the right; the 1st battalion of light infantry, and the Queen's American rangers, were advanced in the front of this wing.

At three o'clock in the morning of the 4th, the patroles discovered the enemy's approach; and upon the communication of this intelligence the army was immediately ordered under arms.

Soon after the break of day, the enemy began their attack upon the 2d light infantry; which they sustained for a considerable time, supported by the 40th regiment; but at length being overpowered by increasing numbers, the light infantry, and a part of the 40th, retired into the village; when Lt-Col. Musgrave, with six companies of the latter corps, threw himself into a large stone house in the face of the enemy, which, though surrounded by a brigade, and attacked by four pieces of cannon, he most gallantly defended, until Maj-Gen. Grey, at the head of three battalions of the 3d brigade, turning his front to the village, and Brig-Gen. Agnew, who covered Maj-Gen. Grey's left with the 4th brigade, by a vigorous attack repulsed the enemy that had penetrated into the upper part of the village, which was done with great slaughter. The 5th and 55th regiments, from the right, engaging them at the same time on the other side of the village, completed the defeat of the enemy in this quarter.

The regiments of Du Corps and Donop being formed to support the left of the 4th brigade, and one battalion of Hessian grenadiers in the rear of the chasseurs, were not engaged; the precipitate flight of the enemy preventing the two first corps from entering into action; and the success of the chasseurs, in repelling all efforts against them on that side, did not call for the support of the latter.

The 1st light infantry, and piquets of the line in front of the right wing, were engaged soon after the attack began upon the head of the village: the piquets were obliged to fall back; but the light infantry being well supported by the 4th regiment, sustained the enemy's attack with such determined bravery, that they could not make the least impression on them.

Two columns of the enemy were opposite to the guards, 27th and 28th regiments, who formed the right of the line.

Maj-Gen. Grant, who was upon the right, moved up the 49th regiment with four pieces of cannon to the left of the 4th regiment, about the time Maj-Gen. Grey had forced the enemy in the village; and then advancing with the right wing, the enemy's left gave way, and was pursued through a strong country between four and five miles.

Ld Cornwallis, being early apprised at Philadelphia of the enemy's approach, put in motion the two battalions of British and one of the Hessian grenadiers, with a squadron of dragoons; and his Lordship getting to German-town just as the enemy had been forced out of the village, he joined Maj-Gen. Grey, when, placing himself at the head of the troops, he followed the enemy eight miles on the Skippach road: but such was the expedition with which they fled, that he was not able to overtake them.

The grenadiers from Philadelphia, who, full of ardor, had run most of the way to German-town, could not arrive in time to join in the action.

The country in general was so strongly inclosed, and covered with wood, that the dragoons had not any opening to charge, excepting a small party on the right, which behaved most gallantly.

The enemy retired near twenty miles by several roads to Perkiomy creek, and are now encamped upon Skippach creek, about eighteen miles distant from hence.

They

They ſaved all their cannon, by withdrawing them early in the day.

By the beſt accounts, their loſs was between 200 and 300 killed, about 600 wounded, and upwards of 400 taken. Among the killed was Gen. Naſh, with many other officers of all ranks, and fifty four officers among the priſoners.

Since the battle of Brandywine ſeventy-two of their officers have been taken, excluſive of ten belonging to the Delaware frigate.

Your Lordſhip will ſee the loſs on the part of the king's army in return N° 3.; and among the killed will be found the names of Brig-Gen. Agnew, and Lt-Col. Bird of the 15th regiment, both of whom are much to be lamented, as officers of experience, and approved merit.

Lt-Col. Walcot of the 5th regiment is among the wounded; but I have the ſatisfaction to report, that he is now in a fair way of recovery, though at firſt his wound was thought mortal. His behaviour on this occaſion reflects upon him infinite honour.

In theſe ſeveral engagements, the ſucceſſes attending them are far better vouchers than any words can convey of the good conduct of the general officers, and of the bravery of the other officers and ſoldiers. The fatigues of a march exceeding one hundred miles, ſupported with the utmoſt chearfulneſs by all ranks, without tents, and with very little baggage, will, I hope, be eſteemed as convincing proofs of the noble ſpirit and emulation prevailing in the army to promote his Majeſty's ſervice

Major Cuyler, my firſt aid-du-camp, will have the honour to deliver my diſpatches; and, I flatter myſelf, is well informed to anſwer your Lordſhip's further inquiries.

With moſt perfect reſpect, I have the honour to be, &c.

W. Howe.

Return of the Killed, Wounded, and Miſſing, of the army under the command of Gen. Howe, in the general engagement with the rebel-army, on the Heights of the Brandywine, Sept. 11. 1777.

The Britiſh troops engaged were, the royal artillery, the 1ſt and 2d battalions of light infantry, the 1ſt and 2d battalions of grenadiers, brigade of foot-guards, 1ſt brig 4th reg. 1ſt brig 23d reg. 1ſt brigade 28th reg. 2ſt brig. 49th reg. 2d brig. 5th reg. 2d brig. 22d reg. 2d brig 27th reg. 2d brig 40th reg. 2d brig. 55th reg 4th brig. 33d reg. 4th brig. 37th reg 4th brig. 46th reg. 4th brig 64th reg. 2 batt. of the 71ſt reg Queen's American rangers, and Ferguſon's corps of riflemen. The numbers in each of theſe corps are ſpecified, and the total is, 3 captains, 5 lieutenants, 5 ſerjeants, 68 rank and file, killed; 1 lieutenant-colonel, 1 major, 16 captains, 22 lieutenants, 5 enſigns, 35 ſerjeants, 4 drummers, 372 rank and file, wounded; 6 rank and file miſſing.

The Foreign troops engaged were, the battalions of Linſing and Lengerke, the regiments Du Corps and Mirbach, and the Heſſian and Anſpach yagers. The number in each of theſe corps are likewiſe ſpecified; and the total is, 2 ſerjeants, 6 rank and file killed; 1 captain, 3 lieutenants, 5 ſerjeants, 23 rank and file, wounded.

Total Britiſh and Foreign: 3 captains, 5 lieutenants, 7 ſerjeants, 74 rank and file, killed; 1 lieutenant-colonel, 1 major, 17 captains, 25 lieutenants, 5 enſigns, 40 ſerjeants, 4 drummers, 395 rank and file, wounded; 6 rank and file miſſing.

Names and rank of the officers killed and wounded in the before-mentioned engagement.

R. Art. Lieut. Shand wounded.

1ſt batt. light inf. 38th comp. Lieut. Johnſton killed. 23d Capt. Meccan, 33d Capt. Dancey, 15th Capt. Douglas, 27th Lieut. Birch, 33d Lieut. Nicholl, 15th Lieut. Leigh, wounded.

2d batt. light inf. 49th comp. Capt. Wade, 55th Capt. Downing, 57th Capt. Sir James Murray, 40th Capt. De Courcy, 45th Lieut. Ruxton, 49th Lieut Armſtrong, 63d Lieut. Ball, wounded.

1ſt batt. gren. 15th comp. Lieut. Faulkner, 27th Lieut. Minchin, 40th Lieut. Barber, killed. 55th Lt-Col. Medowes, 15th Capt. Cathcart, 49th Capt Simcoe, 33d Lieut' Harris and Drummond 37th Lieut' Chapman and Cooke, wounded.

2d batt. of gren. 63d comp. Capt Drury, 52d Lieut D'Oyly, killed. 44th Capt. Fiſh, 64th Lieut. Peters, wounded.

4th reg Capt. Rawdon wounded.

28th ditto, Lieut. Edwards wounded.

49th ditto, Capt. Steward wounded.

5th ditto, Enſ. Andrew wounded.

46th ditto, Enſ. Buttow wounded.

64th reg Capt Nairne killed. Major Mackleroth, Lieut' Jacob, Torianno, and Wynyard, Enſ' Freeman and Grant, wounded.

Queen's Am. rang. Capt. Murden, killed. Capt' Williams, Saunders, M'Kay, M'Cra, Lieut' Ker, Agnew, Smith, Joel, and Clo, Enſ. M'Kay, wounded.

Ferguſon's corps, Capt. Ferguſon wounded.

Heſſian yagers, Capt. Trantvetter wounded.

Batt. of Linſing, Lieut' De Bey and De Brumback, wounded.

Anſpach yagers, Lieut De Fortſtner wounded.

Volunteers ſerving with Queen's rangers, Capt. Burns wounded.

Ditto with 1ſt batt. light inf. Capt[s] Cummings, Currey, M'Intoſh, and M'Kenzie, wounded.

Ditto with 2d batt. light inf Capt[s] Moultrie, Evans, Fone, wounded

Return of ordnance, ammunition, and ſtores, taken from the rebels in the before-mentioned action of Sept. 11.

Ordnance mounted on travelling-carriages. Braſs ſix pounders, 1 Rebel States, 1 Heſſian, 1 Engliſh; Four-pounders, 4 French; Three-pounders, 1 Heſſian, 1 French; Five and half inch howitzer, 1 Rebel-States. Iron four-pounder, 1 Rebel-States. Total 11.

Shot fixed, with powder. Grape quilted, ſix pounders 185; three-pounders 20. Ditto round, ſix-pounders 76; three-pounders 23. Ditto caſe, ſix-pounders 130; three pounders 225

Shot fixed to wood bottoms. Round, ſix-pounders 6. Caſe, ſix-pounder 4; eight-inch howitzers 38; five and half ditto 39.

Shot, Round looſe Twelve-pounders 6; ſix-pounders 39; four-pounders 12; three-pounders 20.

Cartridges Paper filled with powder, ſix-pounders 24; three pounders 46. Flannel ditto for five and half inch howitzer 28. Block filled with ball 6000.

Powder. Whole barrels 3.

Part[s] barrels 4.

Waggons covered for ammunition 9. Open ditto 1. A quantity of damaged tubes, port-fires, and intrenching tools.

The two Heſſian guns were taken by the Rebels at Trent town, and one of them ſince bored to a ſix pounder.

The Engliſh gun was left at Prince-town, the carriage being broke.

Return of the Killed, Wounded, and Miſſing, of the army under the command of Gen. Howe, in the engagement with the rebel army at Germantown in Pennſylvania, Oct. 4 1777.

The troops engaged were, the royal artillery, the 1ſt and 2d battalions of light infantry, brigade of foot guards, 4th, 5th, 15th, 17th, 33d, 37th, 40th, 44th, 46th, 49th, 55th, and 64th regiments. Queen's American rangers, Heſſian chaſſeurs and reg. Du Corps. The numbers in each of theſe corps are ſpecified; and the totals are, Britiſh, 2 lieutenant-colonels, 2 enſigns, 7 ſerjeants, 1 drummer, 58 rank and file, killed; 2 lieutenant colonels, 6 captains, 13 lieutenants, 10 enſigns, 23 ſerjeants, 1 drummer, 372 rank and file, wounded; 1 captain, 35 rank and file, miſſing. Heſſians: 1 ſerjeant, 23 rank and file, wounded.

N. B. 16th light dragoons: 1 man killed; 3 horſes killed, and 4 wounded.

Names and rank of the officers killed, &c. in the laſt-mentioned engagement.

R. Art. Lieut. James Froſt wounded.

1ſt light inf. Lieut. Morgan, 17th, dead of his wounds; Lieut. Champaigne, 4th, wounded.

2d light inf. Capt. Sir James Baird, 71ſt, Capt. Weir, 43d, Lieut. St George, 52d, Lieut. Campbell, ſen. 71ſt, wounded; Capt. Speke, 37th, priſoner.

4th reg. Capt. Thorne, Lieut[s] Arbuthnot and Kemble, Enſ[s] Dickſon, Schoen, Hadden, and Flenman, Adj. Hunt, wounded.

5th reg. Lt-Col. Walcott, Capt. Charleton, Enſ[s] Thomas and Stewart, wounded

15th reg. Lt-Col. Bird, Enſ. Anthony Frederick, killed. Capt[s] F. G. Goldtrapp and Henry Ditmas, Lieut. G. Thomas, Enſ. William Hall, wounded

17th reg. Enſ. Nathaniel Phillips, killed.

37th reg. Lieut. Buckeridge wounded.

40th reg. Lieut[s] Doyle and Forbes, Enſ. Campbell, wounded

44th reg. Lt-Col. Agnew (Brigadier General) killed. Enſ. David Stack wounded.

55th reg. Capt. Fuller, Enſ. Shuldham, wounded

Volunteers ſerving with 1ſt light infantry. James Forreſt, William M'Intoſh, wounded.

Ditto ſerving with 2d light infantry. Smith. Waller, half pay Enſ. Gordon, wounded.

N. B. Capt. Wolfe, of the 40th light infantry, killed, and Lieut. Hunter, of the 52d ditto, wounded; one ſerjeant and one rank and file killed, and eight rank and file wounded,—20th September, on a detachment under the command of Maj.-Gen. Grey in Pennſylvania.

Extract of a letter, dated, Philadelphia, Oct. 21. 1777.

"SINCE the march of the army from the head of the Elk, I have been honoured with your Lordſhip's ſeveral diſpatches, N° 10. 11. 12. and ſeparate letter of the 20th May, the duplicates of which were before received, alſo the original and duplicate of the 12th June, including the ſtates of Heſſian cheſſeurs and recruits brought out by Maj. Gen. Robertſon, a circular letter of the ſame date, and the original and duplicate of your Lordſhip's diſpatch N° 14. Theſe reached my hands at Germantown on the 23d inſtant; and, on the 19th, I had the further honour of your Lordſhip's diſpatches of the 6th of Auguſt, which came to New York by the Le Deſpencer packet.

Here Gen. Howe mentions letters received

ved by him from Gen. Clinton, which are afterward inſerted: but theſe we defer till our next, and ſhall here continue, without interruption, the account of the operations in Pennſylvania.—Gen. Howe proceeds thus.]

On the 19th, the army removed from German town to this place, as a more convenient ſituation for the reduction of Fort-iſland, which at preſent is an obſtruction to the paſſage of the river, as the upper chevaux de frize cannot be removed until we have poſſeſſion of that poſt. The difficulty of acceſs has rendered the reduction of it a much more tedious operation than was conceived upon our arrival here.

I am to requeſt, that additional cloathing may be ſent over for 5000 provincials, which, by including the new levies expected to be raiſed in this and the neighbouring countries, will certainly be wanting.

Copy of a letter, dated, Philadelphia, Oct. 25. 1777.

"My Lord,

THE enemy having entrenched about 800 men at Red Bank, upon the Jerſey ſhore, ſome little diſtance above Fort Iſland, Col. Donop, with three battalions of Heſſian grenadiers, the regiment of Minback, and the infantry, chaſſeurs, croſſed the Delaware on the 21ſt inſtant to Cooper's ferry, oppoſite to this town, with directions to proceed to the attack of that poſt. The detachment marched a part of the way on the ſame day, and on the 22d in the afternoon was before Red Bank. Col. Donop immediately made the beſt diſpoſition, and led on the troops in the moſt gallant manner to the aſſault. They carried an extenſive outwork, from whence the enemy were driven into an interior intrenchment, which could not be forced without ladders, being eight or nine feet high, with a parapet boarded and traized. The detachment, in moving up, and returning from the attack, was much galled by the enemy's gallies and floating batteries.

Col. Donop and Lt-Col. Minningerode being both wounded, the command devolved upon Lt Col. Linſing; who, after collecting all the wounded that could be brought off, marched that night about five miles towards Cooper's ferry, and on the following morning returned with the detachment to camp.

Col. Donop unfortunately had his thigh ſo much fractured by a muſket-ball, that he could not be removed; but I ſince underſtand there are ſome hopes of his recovery. There were ſeveral brave officers loſt upon this occaſion, in which the utmoſt ardour and courage were diſplayed by both officers and ſoldiers.

On the 23d, the Auguſta, in coming up the river with ſome other ſhips of war, to engage the enemy's gallies near the fort, got aground, and by ſome accident taking fire in the action, was unavoidably conſumed; but I do not hear there were any lives loſt. The Merlin ſloop alſo grounded, and the other ſhips being obliged to remove to a diſtance from the exploſion of the Auguſta, it became expedient to evacuate and burn her alſo.

Theſe diſappointments, however, will not prevent the moſt vigorous meaſures being purſued for the reduction of the fort, which will give us the paſſage of the river.

I have the honour to be &c.

W. HOWE.

[Lord Howe's and other letters, in this gazette-extraordinary, (which amounts to three ſheets), will be in our next.]

"*Boſton, Oct.* 28. The Honourable Continental Congreſs have removed from Philadelphia to York-town, in the northern part of the State of Pennſylvania.

From the Boſton Gazette, Oct. 27.

In Congreſs, Sept. 10. 1777.

Reſolved, That the intereſt which ſhall ariſe, after the date of this reſolution, on Loan-office certificates, already iſſued, or which ſhall be iſſued before the 1ſt day of March next, be annually paid at the reſpective Loan-offices in bills of exchange on the commiſſioners of the United States in Paris, at the rate of five livres of France for every Spaniſh milled dollar due for intereſt as aforeſaid, or in continental bills of credit, at the option of the reſpective lenders. By order of Congreſs,

JOHN HANCOCK, Preſident.

It has been long notorious, that the courts of France and Spain have ſupplied the colonies with arms, ammunition, artillery, cloathing, &c. The above extraordinary reſolution of congreſs demonſtrates, that the colonies are ſubſidized by theſe courts; and that being thus ſecure of having the intereſt of their public debt diſcharged in Europe, they can want no other aſſiſtance for the eſtabliſhment of their independence, and the ſolidity of their national credit. *Lond. pap.*

PAR-

PARLIAMENT. [533.]

IN purſuance of a royal proclamation, dated, Sept. 24. the parliament met at Weſtminſter on the 20th of November.—The King opened the ſeſſion with the following ſpeech.

"My Lords, and Gentlemen,

IT is a great ſatisfaction to me, that I can have recourſe to the wiſdom and ſupport of my parliament, in this conjuncture, when the continuance of the rebellion in North America demands our moſt ſerious attention. The powers which you have intruſted me with, for the ſuppreſſion of this revolt, have been faithfully exerted; and I have a juſt confidence, that the conduct and courage of my officers, and the ſpirit and intrepidity of my forces, both by ſea and land, will, under the bleſſing of Divine Providence, be attended with important ſucceſs: but as I am perſuaded that you will ſee the neceſſity of preparing for ſuch further operations as the contingencies of the war, and the obſtinacy of the rebels, may render expedient, I am, for that purpoſe, purſuing the proper meaſures for keeping my land-forces complete to their preſent eſtabliſhment; and if I ſhould have occaſion to increaſe them, by contracting any new engagements, I rely on your zeal and public ſpirit to enable me to make them good.

I receive repeated aſſurances from foreign powers of their pacific diſpoſitions: my own cannot be doubted: but at this time, when the armaments in the ports of France and Spain continue, I have thought it adviſeable to make a conſiderable augmentation to my naval force, as well to keep my kingdoms in a reſpectable ſtate of ſecurity, as to provide an adequate protection for the extenſive commerce of my ſubjects; and as, on the one hand, I am determined, that the peace of Europe ſhall not be diſturbed by me, ſo, on the other, I will always be a faithful guardian of the honour of the crown of Great Britain.

Gentlemen of the Houſe of Commons,

I have ordered the eſtimates for the enſuing year to be laid before you. The various ſervices which I have mentioned to you will unavoidably require large ſupplies; and nothing could relieve my mind from the concern which I feel for the heavy charge which they muſt bring on my faithful people, but the perfect conviction that they are neceſſary for the welfare and eſſential intereſts of my kingdoms.

My Lords, and Gentlemen,

I will ſteadily purſue the meaſures in which we are engaged for the re-eſtabliſhment of that conſtitutional ſubordination, which, with the bleſſing of God, I will maintain through the ſeveral parts of my dominions: but I ſhall ever be watchful for an opportunity of putting a ſtop to the effuſion of the blood of my ſubjects, and the calamities which are inſeparable from a ſtate of war. And I ſtill hope, that the deluded and unhappy multitude will return to their allegiance; and that the remembrance of what they once enjoyed, the regret for what they have loſt, and the feelings of what they now ſuffer under the arbitrary tyranny of their leaders, will rekindle in their hearts a ſpirit of loyalty to their ſovereign, and of attachment to their mother-country; and that they will enable me, with the concurrence and ſupport of my parliament, to accompliſh, what I ſhall conſider as the greateſt happineſs of my life, and the greateſt glory of my reign, the reſtoration of peace, order, and confidence, to my American colonies."

Addreſſes were preſented to his Majeſty in anſwer to his ſpeech, that of the Lords on the 21ſt, and that of the Commons on the 22d.—Both contain congratulations on the birth of a princeſs; and both accord in every thing with the ſpeech.—With reſpect to the American affairs they ſay,

[The Lords.] "We are duly ſenſible of your Majeſty's goodneſs in recurring to the advice and ſupport of your parliament in the preſent conjuncture, when the rebellion in North America ſtill continues: and we return your Majeſty our unfeigned thanks, for having communicated to us the juſt confidence which your Majeſty repoſes in the zeal, intrepidity, and exertions, of your Majeſty's officers and forces both by ſea and land: but at the ſame time that we entertain a well-founded hope of the important ſucceſſes, which, under the bleſſing of Providence, may be expected, we cannot but applaud your Majeſty's unwearied vigilance and wiſdom in recommending to us to prepare, at all events, for ſuch further operations as the contingencies of the war, and the obſtinacy of the rebels, may render expedient: we are therefore gratefully ſenſible of your Majeſty's con-

federating

ſideration in purſuing the meaſures neceſſary to keep your land-forces complete to the preſent eſtabliſhment; and we owe it both to your Majeſty and ourſelves, to ſay, that we ſhall cheerfully concur in enabling your Majeſty to make good ſuch new engagements with foreign powers, for the augmentation of the auxiliary troops, as the weighty motives your Majeſty has ſtated to us may induce you to contract.

We thankfully receive your Majeſty's declaration of perſeverance in the meaſures now purſuing for the re-eſtabliſhment of a juſt and conſtitutional ſubordination through the ſeveral parts of your Majeſty's dominions; and we beg leave to aſſure your Majeſty, that we participate the deſire which at the ſame time animates your royal breaſt, to ſee a proper opportunity for putting an end to the effuſion of blood, and the various calamities inſeparable from a ſtate of war.

The conſtant tenor of your Majeſty's reign has ſhewn, that your whole attention is employed for the ſafety and happineſs of all your people: and whenever our unhappy fellow-ſubjects in North America ſhall duly return to their allegiance, we ſhall readily concur in every wiſe and ſalutary meaſure which can contribute to reſtore confidence and order, and to fix the mutual welfare of Great Britain and her colonies on the moſt ſolid and permanent foundations."

[The Commons.] "Permit us to aſſure your Majeſty, that we take a ſincere part in the confidence which your Majeſty expreſſes, that the conduct and courage of your officers, and the ſpirit and intrepidity of your forces, both by ſea and land, will, under Divine Providence, be attended with important ſucceſs; but at the ſame time we entirely concur with your Majeſty in thinking, that it is neceſſary to prepare for ſuch further operations, as future events and contingencies of the war may render expedient; and we learn, with much ſatisfaction, that your Majeſty is, for that purpoſe, purſuing the proper meaſures for keeping your land-forces complete to their preſent eſtabliſhment; and whenever your Majeſty ſhall be pleaſed to communicate to this Houſe any new engagements which you may have entered into for increaſing your military force, we will take the ſame into our conſideration; and we truſt your Majeſty will not be diſappointed in the gracious ſentiments which you entertain of the zeal and public ſpirit of your faithful Commons.

Permit us again to aſſure your Majeſty, that we will, without delay, enter into the conſideration of the ſupplies for the enſuing year; and that we will chearfully and effectually provide for all ſuch expences as ſhall be found neceſſary for the welfare and eſſential intereſts of theſe kingdoms, and for the vigorous proſecution of the meaſures in which we are engaged, for the re-eſtabliſhment of that conſtitutional ſubordination, which, we truſt, with the bleſſing of God, your Majeſty will be able to maintain through the ſeveral parts of your dominions.

We acknowledge, with equal gratitude and admiration, your Majeſty's paternal declaration, that you will be ever watchful for an opportunity of putting a ſtop to the effuſion of the blood of your ſubjects, and the calamities of war.

The gracious and condeſcending manner in which your Majeſty expreſſes your deſire that you may be enabled to reſtore peace, order, and confidence, to your American colonies, cannot fail of endearing you to the hearts of all your ſubjects. When this great work can be accompliſhed, and ſettled on the true principles of the conſtitution, your Majeſty may depend on the moſt zealous concurrence and ſupport of your faithful Commons."

The following proteſt was entered againſt the Lords addreſs.

"*Diſſentient*,

Becauſe this addreſs is a repetition of, or rather an improvement on, the fulſome adulation offered, and of the blind engagements entered into on former occaſions by this Houſe, relative to this unhappy civil war.

EFFINGHAM. RICHMOND."

The King, in his anſwer to the Lords, ſaid, "The aſſurances you give me of your firm and temperate ſentiments, reſpecting the meaſures in which we are engaged, are highly agreeable to me; and I perſuade myſelf, that ſalutary effects muſt be the natural reſult of deliberation, conducted on ſuch principles. You will ever find, that the favourite wiſh of my heart is, to promote and effectuate the common happineſs and welfare of all my dominions."

And in his anſwer to the Commons, "The ſteady and zealous ſupport of my faithful Commons, will, I truſt in God, enable me to put an end to this unhappy rebellion. Whatever ſtrength you ſhall

place

place in my hands, ſhall be employed only for the good of my people, and the welfare of my kingdoms; and be aſſured, that I wiſh for ſucceſs in this great national cauſe, for no other purpoſe, but that it may enable me to reſtore peace and happineſs to all my ſubjects."

The addreſs was not agreed to in either Houſe but upon a warm debate.

After the ſpeech was twice read, (by the Lord Chancellor, and by the Clerk), as uſual, in the Houſe of Lords, Lord Percy roſe, and acquainted the Houſe, that it had fallen to his lot to move for an addreſs. He apologized for inſufficiency; but enforced the ſeveral heads with great propriety and elegance. He mentioned the birth of another princeſs, as an additional ſecurity to the Proteſtant religion, and to the conſtitutional rights of this kingdom, which are known to be peculiarly the care of the amiable and virtuous ſovereign on the throne; he paſſed the higheſt encomiums on the humane but firm ſpirit with which the ſpeech that had been juſt read was dictated; acknowledged his obligations, in common with the officers ſerving in America, for the confidence placed in their conduct and courage by their Royal Maſter; but lamented, as a profeſſional man, the diſagreeable ſituation of perſons ſerving there in high commands, when accidents, which no human faculties could foreſee, nor military ſkill prevent, were attributed to incapacity or neglect. He deplored the occaſion of the war, and the effuſion of human blood; but bore teſtimony, that how much ſoever his Majeſty, the parliament, and the nation, might feel, the temper of America made it neceſſary. The Americans, he ſaid, were deceived by their leaders; and no inducement, he feared, would incline them to return to their allegiance, till they were fully convinced, that, whatever our claims were, our ſtrength was adequate to their ſupport.

Lord Cheſterfield ſeconded Lord Percy's motion, applauded the ſpeech, and dwelt upon the humane, gracious, fatherly ſpirit which it breathed; wiſhed that the deluded colonies were in a temper to liſten to the merciful invitations of their ſovereign; and expreſſed the higheſt confidence, that if they perſiſted in their obſtinacy, the vigorous exertions of this country would at length compel their obedience.

Lord Coventry argued againſt coercive meaſures, on the ground that America muſt one day be an independent ſtate; and that it was the true intereſt of this country to remove that day to as diſtant a period as the viciſſitude of human affairs would admit. But now that the conteſt was begun, he was for making a virtue of neceſſity, and ending it as ſoon as poſſible; and concluded with a motion to adviſe his Majeſty to withdraw the troops from America. [xxxviii. 119.]

Lord Chatham ſeconded his motion. He began with complaining, that parliament were cavalierly treated by the miniſtry; that inſtead of the latter's perſuading his Majeſty to aſk the advice of the great council of the nation, when matters ſtood in ſuch a very alarming ſituation, when the exiſtence of the conſtitution was at ſtake, the ſpeech, in peremptory terms, talked of the line of conduct to be followed by government as a matter already ſettled, and, only uſing the words *wiſdom* and *ſupport*, in addreſſing the great council of the nation, begged that parliament would make every grant of troops, money, &c. however inordinate, which the miniſter thought proper to aſk. This language, the Earl obſerved, ſtruck him in ſo reprehenſible a point of view, that he ſcrupled not to ſay, the miniſter who dared to adviſe the uſe of it, ought to be called to a ſevere account; and he wiſhed to ſee the front of the man who was ſufficiently confident to venture to tell the King that his affairs were in a hopeful condition. Having finiſhed his animadverſions on the ſpeech, his Lordſhip dwelt upon the neceſſity of inſtantly changing the meaſures of government, and inſtead of purſuing the war, of taking the moſt effectual means of procuring peace and tranquillity. He was particularly ſevere on thoſe who had conſented to the turning the ſavages looſe upon the rebels with the tomahawk and ſcalping-knife; and ſaid it was not only a moſt inhuman mode of carrying on the war, but that it was a circumſtance the Americans never would forget or forgive. He called it diſgracing the Britiſh banner, lowering our national character as men of courage, and polluting the fame which the ſucceſs of our arms had created in all parts of the world, and ſacrificing to a mean revenge the nobleſt principles of honour and humanity. — The hiring of foreign troops the Earl alſo reprobated as impolitic; and after having laboured to prove, that it would

have been more conſtitutional to have raiſed new levies of Britiſh troops, declared that he would ſell his ſhirt off his back to ſerve his country in a right cauſe, but that he would not give government a ſhilling to carry on the preſent ruinous and unnatural war.—The plans of our miniſters (ſaid he) are founded in deſtruction and diſgrace. Our coaſts are daily inſulted,—we are deſtitute of protection,—not above 5000 troops in Britain,—not more in Ireland,—not above twenty ſhips of the line manned and fit for ſervice; while, on the contrary, our formidable inveterate enemies, the two leading branches of the Houſe of Bourbon, have a powerful navy, their coaſts lined with troops on all ſides, and their intentions known to be hoſtile. He declared, the Houſe of Bourbon was ready to break with us; that the court of Portugal had acceded to the family-compact; and that even the port of Liſbon was already loſt to us.—After having expatiated in praiſe of the Americans, his Lordſhip ſaid, that as far as they had reſiſted for the ſake of freedom, he would juſtify their conduct: but that he was not ſo entirely of opinion with them as to undertake either to defend or ſupport every thing they had done. America, his Lordſhip declared, was not to be juſtified in throwing off her dependency on Great Britain: the mother-country had an undoubted right to a ſuperiority: but then ſhe ſhould enjoy and uſe it mutually for her own intereſt and that of her colonies, and not with a view to derive great advantage to herſelf, and to oppreſs America. The act of navigation ſhould be allowed, and every pretence to independency retracted, on the one hand; every deſire of unconditional ſubmiſſion given up on the other. This, his Lordſhip aſſerted, was the only rational idea of accommodation that could be adopted: and that it was at once honourable, ſafe, and promiſed to be permanent. The preſent moment his Lordſhip pointed out as the proper time to attempt ſuch a mode of accommodation: France, by her late declarations of not aſſiſting America, ſeemed not to be on the beſt terms with the congreſs: and probably the ſecret reaſon was, that ſome treaty was on the carpet between her and the congreſs deputies, the terms of which ſhe meant to terrify the latter into a compliance with, by appearing to be in earneſt in her profeſſions to the court of G. Britain; that we ought to take advantage of this fluctuation of affairs, and while there was an apparent coolneſs between France and America, to ſettle matters with the latter, and reſtore our own affairs to ſuch order as was neceſſary for the ſafety of the empire. As a firſt ſtep towards effecting what his Lordſhip adviſed, he moved an amendment to the addreſs propoſed to be preſented; which amendment was as follows. "That this Houſe does moſt humbly adviſe and ſupplicate his Majeſty to be pleaſed to cauſe the moſt ſpeedy and effectual meaſures to be taken for reſtoring peace in America: and that no time may be loſt in propoſing an immediate ceſſation of hoſtilities there, in order to the opening a treaty for the final ſettlement of the tranquillity of thoſe invaluable provinces, by a removal of the unhappy cauſes of this ruinous civil war, and by a juſt and adequate ſecurity againſt the return of the like calamities in times to come: And this Houſe deſire to offer the moſt dutiful aſſurance to his Majeſty, that they will, in due time, cheerfully co-operate with the magnanimity and tender goodneſs of his Majeſty, for the preſervation of his people, by ſuch explicit and moſt ſolemn declarations and proviſions of fundamental and irrevocable laws, as may be judged neceſſary for aſcertaining and fixing, for ever, the reſpective rights of Great Britain and her Colonies."

Lord Sandwich, after paying ſome high compliments to his Lordſhip's talents as a ſtateſman and orator, begged leave to ſet the Houſe and his Lordſhip right as to ſome facts, which, if not contradicted, might be preſumed to be true. His Lordſhip, he ſaid, had aſſerted, that the whole of our home naval defence did not amount to more than twenty ſhips of the line fit for immediate ſervice; whereas the fact is, and that founded on incontrovertible authority, that there are now forty-two ſhips of the line in commiſſion in G. Britain; that thirty-five of them are completely manned, and ready at a moment's warning; that of the other ſeven, whoſe complements are not yet formed, there are but 2400 ſeamen, and 700 marines wanting; that in America there are ninety-three ſhips and veſſels of war, ſix of which are of the line; and that our whole naval force now fit for or in actual ſervice, conſiſts of fifty-four ſhips of the line, and nearly 200 frigates, ſloops, and veſſels of war; a

force ſuperior to what France and Spain, were they ſo inclined, which however he was ſure they were not, could bring againſt them. To the aſſertion, that we had loſt the port of Liſbon, his Lordſhip with his wonted humour replied, that by the laſt accounts the Invincible, a 74 gun ſhip, was riding in that port; and that unleſs ſome ſecret intelligence had been received, that ſhe was loſt, or taken by an American privateer, he could hardly believe we had loſt the port of Liſbon. The Portugueſe court, he ſaid, had repeated their aſſurances of friendſhip, expreſſed an abhorrence of the unnatural conduct of our rebellious ſubjects, and, as a proof of the ſincerity of their declarations, had confiſcated one of their veſſels for daring to enter their ports; in reſentment for which, an American privateer had made capture of a Portugueſe merchantman, richly laden, by way of reprizal. His Lordſhip contended, that neither France nor Spain entertained any hoſtile intentions towards Great Britain; that, on the contrary, France had denied the American privateers protection, and Spain had never countenanced them. He admired the humiliating language of the great miniſter who had directed the victorious fleets and armies of Great Britain in every part of the globe; and was againſt the amendment, becauſe he was convinced that the ſureſt means of a happy termination to the preſent rebellion would be by a perſeverance in the meaſures recommended by government. The Noble Earl had ſaid, he wiſhed to ſee the man who dared to ſtand forward, and tell his Majeſty that his affairs were in a hopeful condition. He could, he declared, ſhew his forehead on that ſcore; and, with an animo erected countenance, tell him, that his affairs were in a hopeful condition. News, he aſſerted, would ſoon arrive from Sir William Howe, which would not only effectually remove the calumnies and diſtreſſing repreſentation given by the Noble Earl as deſcriptive of the preſent ſituation of affairs, but would operate to the ſatisfaction of every member of that Houſe, and of the whole nation.

The Earl of Abingdon was for the amendment, as the ſureſt way of leading to peace. He obſerved, that our danger was great, and our ſenſibility little; like the vulture we were preying upon our own vitals; our late ſtatutes againſt America, were, like Draco's laws, written in blood, and, unleſs blotted out would diſgrace us to poſterity.

Lord Shelburne did not doubt the veracity of the Noble Earl at the head of an high official department, who had entertained the Houſe with the flouriſhing ſtate of the Britiſh navy; but he queſtioned his information, as he might be deceived. He cited a caſe in which Prince George of Denmark, being himſelf deceived, gave falſe information to that Houſe. We are called upon, he ſaid, to concur with miniſters, and to believe them on every freſh occaſion, for no other reaſon but becauſe they deceived us on every preceding one. The Noble Earl ſpeaks with great confidence of the expected ſucceſs of our military operations; he could not ſee upon what grounds. There was reaſon to fear for Gen. Burgoyne's army; but ſuppoſing it to be joined with Gen. Clinton's at New York, what end, he aſked, could that anſwer, but that, at the expence of many millions of treaſure, and after the hard ſervice of two hazardous campaigns, he had at laſt reached a place by land, which, without the leaſt trouble or interruption, he could have reached by ſea in almoſt as many weeks? The General who commanded in Canada, he ſaid, was inſulted upon the practicability of military operations by way of the lakes;—he did more,—he reprobated the idea, and ſhrunk with horror from the propoſition, of employing ſavages. The event has proved his judgement as an officer, and his feelings as a man. His Lordſhip explained the nature of the French King's prohibition to American privateers: They were not permitted to ſell their prizes directly: but brokers were ready to purchaſe, on their own terms;—the bargain was ſtruck at the broker's price; and who were enriched, but the French King's ſubjects! His Lordſhip declared for the amendment.

Lord Suffolk declared againſt the amendment, as ſuppoſing it was meant to give an opening to treat with ſubjects, of which there was not the leaſt probability of ſucceſs. The Noble Earl who made the motion, may recollect what paſſed on Staten iſland, when the perſons deputed on the part of the congreſs refuſed to treat but upon the explicit terms of an independent ſtate [xxxviii. 587.]. This alone, he ſaid, deſtroyed every idea of benefit to be hoped from the amendment. As to the auxiliaries employed in the re-

duction

duction of the rebels, government, he ſaid, was fully juſtified in uſing every means which God and nature had put into their power for that purpoſe. The Americans endeavoured to engage the ſavages on their ſide, and would any Noble Lord ſtand up and ſay, that what was laudable in an American congreſs, was a heinous crime in a Britiſh miniſter? High encomiums had been paſſed on American chiefs, and American allies, but time would ſhew them in their proper colours. He was againſt the amendment.

Lord Oſborn (Marquis of Carmarthen) was againſt the amendment, becauſe he was ſure it would have a quite contrary effect than what it was intended to produce. Vigorous meaſures, he inſiſted, were the only means to conciliate the colonies.

The Duke of Grafton complained of the unparliamentary uſage of perſons in high office, who affect to treat every man who differs from adminiſtration as an enemy to his country. It is known to every Lord in this Houſe, that Adm. Keppel differs in opinion from adminiſtration on the point of the preſent unnatural civil war; yet Adm. Keppel has been mentioned in the courſe of this debate, by the firſt officer in the naval department, as the fitteſt perſon to be intruſted with the conduct of the fleet now fitting out, on which the ſalvation of this country depends. How is this to be reconciled? Is it fit that ſuch a truſt ſhould be repoſed in a man who is marked as an enemy to his country? His Grace treated the ſpeech as the miniſter's ſpeech, and as an inſult on the underſtanding of the Houſe. It explained nothing, it held forth nothing; it only required a formal approbation of what had been already done, and an implicit belief in what was to follow. He reprobated the inimical meaſures from beginning to end, and concluded with giving his vote for the amendment.

Lord Camden run over the ground he had trodden before on the Noble Earl's motion of laſt ſeſſion [530.]. He ſaid, that America did not aim at independence till forced to it by a ſeries of unjuſt, arbitrary, and cruel meaſures. He adverted to former ſpeeches, all promiſing ſucceſs. He knew not what oracles the framers of them had conſulted, but he knew who had been made dupes by their predictions. He declared for the amendment.

Lord Weymouth declared againſt the amendment, for the very reaſon that the framers of it voted for it, becauſe America is diſpleaſed with France. Now, he ſaid, was the time to preſs America with redoubled vigour, for America muſt feel the power of this country before ſhe will liſten to reaſonable terms.

The Biſhop of Peterborough obſerved, that, from the language of adminiſtration throughout this long debate, he could perceive that no time was proper for negotiating with America: their arguments go fairly to this, If the King's troops are victorious, why negotiate? If the Americans are victorious, the dignity of the nation forbids it! Surely, ſaid his Lordſhip, if victory has declared in our favour, it will be more conſonant to the temper and diſpoſition of Engliſhmen to permit their natural feelings, thoſe of moderation and humanity, to take place, than to cheriſh the more unworthy paſſions of reſentment and revenge.

The Duke of Richmond went over the old ground of the origin of the war, recapitulated its various events, and endeavoured to ſhew, that in three years we had only gained two towns, and that the ableſt arithmetician could not calculate when we ſhould be able to conquer all America.

Lord Effingham pointed out ſome contradictions which had fallen from the mouths of the miniſtry, and the lords in office, in the courſe of the debate; and took pains to juſtify the amendment, and the advice given by the Noble Earl who propoſed it.

Lord Suffolk roſe again to obviate the objections made againſt government for employing the Indians; and ſhewed, that if we had not embodied them to aſſiſt us in repreſſing the rebels, they would have got them to attack us; that our motive was the great and univerſal principle of ſelf-preſervation; and that when an unnatural rebellion was begun, it ſurely was not only juſtifiable, but ſtrictly politic, to exert every inſtrument in quelling it which God and nature had put into our hands.

Lord Chatham roſe in vehement warmth, and declared, that he was ſhocked at what the ſecretary of ſtate had avowed; ſhocked as a profeſſor of religion, ſhocked as a Chriſtian ſenator, ſhocked as a lord of parliament, and ſhocked as a man of humanity! His Lordſhip, with

a great loudneſs of tone, reprobated the idea of turning the ſavages looſe upon the Americans, with their tomohawks and ſcalping-knives; he ſaid it was ſetting a pack of hell-hounds to hunt them, and, in the literal ſenſe of the words, to *eat them up*; and that to uſe the terms *God and nature*, in defence and avowal of the circumſtance, was in his eyes a moſt horrid and daring preſumption.

Lord Suffolk very ably repelled this attack, and juſtified the expreſſion.

The Lord Preſident [Lord Gower] declared, that Lord Chatham was miniſter during the late war, when the Indians were employed by the Engliſh in the ſame manner as they now were.

Lord Chatham endeavoured to throw the blame on the officers; and ſaid, that no authority for ſo employing them was given by government, or ſent from the office to the commanders.

Lord Gower then charged the Earl with having had the conduct of the war, and confeſſing his ignorance of the manner in which it was conducted; inſtancing that preſents had been ſent to the Indians, and treaties made with them, which no officer could have dared to have made without authority from government.

Lord Amherſt was called on to prove that the Indians were employed; which he acknowledged.

Lord Townſhend alſo proved that they were, but ſaid they were chiefly uſed as calmucks and pandours.

Lord Chatham again roſe, and put the beſt face he could on his aſſertion.

Lord Shelburne and the Duke of Grafton ſupported him. The Duke ſaid, letting looſe the ſavages was as bad as poiſoning rivers, and yet the latter might be deemed an inſtrument which God and nature had put into our hands.

At length "The queſtion, The queſtion," being called for from all parts of the Houſe, it was put; when the Houſe divided; and the numbers were, Contents 84, Proxies 13; Not contents 28, Proxies 0.

A well-turned Compliment.

LOUIS XI. of France was famous for being his own adviſer and director in all his affairs; his only counſellor was his head. A courtier obſerving him getting upon a wretched hackney, ſaid, "Sire, you are mounted upon the ſtouteſt horſe in the kingdom." "How ſo?" aſked the King. "He carries your Majeſty and all your council."

NEW BOOKS. [550.]

Dr Henry's Hiſtory of G. Britain, vol. 3. [92.]

WE formerly reviewed the firſt and ſecond volumes of this very uſeful work: the third is now before us; and it is but doing juſtice to the author to acknowledge, that it is in no reſpect inferior to the preceding publications; and, in point of compoſition, it is conſiderably ſuperior to them.

[The Reviewers give a conciſe account of the contents of each chapter; for which we muſt refer to the Review; contenting ourſelves with inſerting their opinion of the work.]

On the firſt and ſecond chapters they ſay, "We ſhall only obſerve, that the moſt important facts and events are related with a ſufficient accuracy and perſpicuity to anſwer all the purpoſes of general hiſtory."

On the fourth, "For what the Doctor advances on theſe ſubjects we muſt refer to the work itſelf; which will afford ample matter for reflection to every reader of a philoſophical turn, who makes the human mind his ſtudy, and attentively conſiders the cauſes which influence its progreſs in ſcience and literature, in different ages and countries, and in the ſame country at different periods."

On the fifth, "This chapter contains much curious and inſtructive matter, which we ſhall not attempt to abridge, being convinced, that there are few readers of taſte who will not have recourſe to the author himſelf, whoſe judgement and induſtry are very conſpicuous in this part of his work."

On the ſixth and ſeventh, "The limits aſſigned to this article will not permit us to give extracts from theſe chapters; nor indeed is it neceſſary, as we have ſaid enough to give our readers a juſt idea and favourable opinion of the work."

"In the Appendix we have a correct edition of the Great Charter of King John,—a plain and almoſt literal tranſlation of it,—Richard I's. permiſſion for holding tournaments in England,—and a curious Latin letter, which will afford ſome entertainment to medical readers, as it contains the deſcription and treatment of a particular diſeaſe, by one of their predeceſſors in the art of healing in England, about 600 years ago." M.

[The reſt of the Books deferred].

SIR,

SIR, *Nov. 22 1777.*

A number of young people, who had been often honoured by the protection, and happy under the roof, of the lady who is the subject of the following verſes, happened to be met together when the accounts of her death arrived: It was agreed her memory was well intitled to a grateful public offering, for the many favours ſhe had conferred on the public. If you do not regard us as too partial to our firſt poetical attempt, the inſertion of the following will oblige all thoſe who lent their aſſiſtance to the execution. Yours, &c. ——

To the Memory of the Hon. Miſs NICHOLAS MURRAY. [622.]

NOT becauſe Stormont's daughter yields her breath,
Nor Mansfield's ſiſter feels the ſtroke of death;
Not becauſe Time a lovely frame annoy'd,
And gradual moulder'd ere it quite deſtroy'd:
'Tis not for theſe our willing verſes flow,
What's rank or beauty, when, alas! to low?
But ſure her gen'rous, ſocial, lib'ral heart,
Fond to relieve, and anxious to impart;
She who with joy each various gueſt receiv'd,
Welcom'd the happy, and th' oppreſs'd reliev'd;
Now well may claim a feeling line from thoſe
Who thank'd her goodneſs erſt in humble proſe.
And you, ye beaux polite, and belles ſo fair, [chair;
Whoſe flutt'ring boſoms crouded round her
When ſhe, with golden badge, in regal ſtate,
Diſpens'd the mandates of your dancing fate;
If in her time ſome ſlight offence was giv'n,
What pow'r offends not that is under heav'n?
But ſince, with gen'rous breaſt and joyous air,
From pure good-nature oft ſhe fill'd the chair,
Juſt to yourſelves, O gratefully retain
A fond remembrance of her eaſy reign.
Reſpect her ſceptre, guard it from a fall:
May worthy matrons ſtill protect the ball,
And virtuous pleaſure crown the ſprightly ball.

Week. Mag.

The Charms of Nature: A ſonnet.

THE cheek enroſ'd with crimſon dye,
The bluſh of maiden hue;
The ſpark that wantons in the eye,
And lip of pearly dew.

To man, theſe native charms appear
More elegant than art;
The painted bluſh, the faareful leer,
Ne'er penetrate the heart.

What boots the bloom, that pencil lays
Each morn upon the face!
Can that which ere the eve decays
Be juſtly deem'd—a grace?

The nymph who truſts to Nature's aid,
Comes neareſt to her end;
For nature ne'er a face hath made,
For human ſkill to mend.

The LOTTERY; *or, The Wheel of Fortune.*

BEhold the wond'rous wheel is come,
Uncertain numbers wait their doom,
And tremble in Guildhall!
With hopes and fears by turns oppreſs'd,
How ſwells each anxious, heaving breaſt,
At ſmiling Fortune's call!

See how they eager forward preſs,
Whilſt in idea all poſſeſs
The heaps of ſhining gold:
The goddeſs' favours while they court,
She makes the motley crowd her ſport,
And triumphs o'er the bold.

Should I deſcribe the gazing throng,
What numbers would the theme prolong,
What muſe propitious be?
'Twould be the talk of all the Nine,
To ſketch in one complete deſign
The world's epitome.

Beaux from St James's—City-heirs—
Rakes—ſharpers—ſwindlers—ſpendthrifts—players—
Exciſemen—uſ'rers—Jews—
With many a ſword and fierce cockade,
And ſtout Hibernian (true to trade)
Who FORTUNA ſtill purſues.

The am'rous, wanton, ſmiling miſs,
Who deems that gold can buy the bliſs
Of matrimonial life;
The leering, ſecret-wiſhing dame,
Who widow'd, nurſes ſtill the flame—
Still longs to be a wife.

All theſe bow down before the ſhrine
Of her whom fools eſteem divine,
All hope her ſmiles to gain;—
Alas! what numbers, undeceiv'd,
From hopes and fears, and oath reliev'd,
Shall find the bubble vain!

Still on the wheels all fix their eyes,
Within whoſe magic circle lies
Their cauſe of hope and care;
All ceaſe to act th' induſtrious part,
But place at once with voice and heart
Their *ne plus ultra* there.

Joy to all ſuch (if joy can reign
Where warring paſſions ſtill obtain)
Be mine the tranquil hour—
So may Content that peace inſure,
Which ſtill is laſting and ſecure,
From fickle Fortune's pow'r.

ÆGON.

On LOTTERIES.

A Lottery, like a magic ſpell,
All ranks of men bewitches;
Whoſe heaving boſoms vainly ſwell
With hopes of ſudden riches.

Unmov'd by Fortune's fickle wheel,
The wiſe man chance deſpiſes;
But Prudence courts with fervent zeal;
She gives the higheſt prizes.

T.

The Death of ALICO, *an African ſlave, condemned for Rebellion in Jamaica in* 1702.

By BRYANT EDWARDS, *Eſq; of Jamaica.*

'TIS paſt:—Ah! calm thy * cares to reſt!
Firm and unmov'd am I:—
In Freedom's cauſe I bar'd my breaſt;—
In Freedom's cauſe I die.

Ah, ſtop! thou doſt me fatal wrong:—
Nature will yet rebel;
For I have lov'd thee very long,
And lov'd thee very well.

To native ſkies and peaceful bow'rs
I ſoon ſhall wing my way,
Where joy ſhall lead the circling hours,
Unleſs too long thy ſtay.

O ſpeed, fair ſun! thy courſe divine;
My ABALA remove;—
There thy bright beams ſhall ever ſhine,
And I for ever love!

On thoſe bleſs'd ſhores—a ſlave no more!
In peaceful eaſe I'll ſtray;
Or rouſe to chaſe the mountain-boar,
As unconfin'd as day!

No Chriſtian tyrant there is known
To mark his ſteps with blood,
Nor fable Miſ'ry's piercing moan
Reſounds thro' ev'ry wood!

Yet have I heard the melting tongue,
Have ſeen the falling tear,—
Known the good heart by pity wrung:
Ah! that ſuch hearts are rare!

Now, Chriſtian, glut thy ravith'd eyes,—
I reach the joyful hour;
Now bid the ſcorching flames ariſe,
And theſe poor limbs devour.

But know, pale tyrant, 'tis not thine
Eternal war to wage:
The death thou giv'ſt ſhall but combine
To mock thy baffled rage.

O Death, how welcome to th' oppreſt!
Thy kind embrace I crave:
Thou bring'ſt to Miſ'ry's boſom reſt,
And *freedom to the ſlave!*

* *He is ſuppoſed to addreſs his wife at the place of execution.*

On QUIN'S *comparing* GARRICK *to Whitefield, and ſaying, the people that were madding after him would return to the old Church, meaning himſelf:*

By Mr GARRICK.

POpe *Quin*, who damns all churches but his own,
Complains that hereſy miſleads the town;
That *Whitefield Garrick* does corrupt the age,
And taints the ſound religion of the ſtage.
Thou great Infallible! forbear to roar;
Thy bulls and errors are rever'd no more;
Where doctrines meet with gen'ral approbation,
It is not *hereſy*, but *reformation.*

ELEGY: Addreſſed to FABRICIUS.

WHen good Eugenia languiſh'd on her bed,
Pale ſickneſs hover'd round with meagre train;
Death waited near at hand, with awful tread,
Ready to ſtrike, and cloſe the ſolemn ſcene.
Calm and ſerene, ſhe aſk'd once more to ſee
Her tender pledges of connubial love,
Again to claſp them, ere juſt Heav'n's decree
From earth remov'd her to the realms above.
Fabricius came—with ev'ry friendly aid,
The learn'd Machaon of the Dardan plain;
He rais'd the languid matron's drooping head,
And bade new health and vigour flow again.
See her reſtor'd to thoſe ſhe holds moſt dear,
With grateful hearts to Heav'n they ſuppliant bend;
Th' Almighty gives them longer to revere
The tendereſt parent, and the kindeſt friend.

AMYNTOR.

On a Lark's being killed by a Cat.

SWeet bird! thy wings were wont to fan
The gentle air at morning-dawn;
You pour'd the ſhrill melodious note,
And ſooth'd our breaſt with warbling throat.
Sublime on downy pinions ſoaring,
You left the grov'ling croud with ſcorn,
Your little ſoul diſdain'd to praiſe,
And gratitude thro' all your lays
Flow'd ſweetly to creation's Lord,
While thankleſs man ſupinely mov'd.
Ah! why did faithleſs ſhrubs invite
Such innocence to ſport, where ſpite
With cunning form'd her intrigues dark,
And thus betray'd the harmleſs lark.
Alas! your ſimple guileleſs heart,
Unſkill'd in black deception's art,
Did little dread th' inſidious hag
Would leap, and ſeize, and fiercely drag.
As fair Aurora view'd the ſcene,
Her roſy cheeks and mien ſerene
A ſullen gloom tranſform'd anon,
And in dark clouds ſhe mourn'd her ſon.
Let brother-ſongſters of the bough
Melt into plaintive ſtrains for you,
Nor let the ſwain refuſe a tear,
'Tis due—your muſic charm'd his ear.

ADVICE to the LADIES.

Learn how to value merit, tho' in rags,
And ſcorn the proud, ill-manner'd fool in office.

OTWAY.

VIrgins ſhould value nothing leſs
Than titles, figure, ſhape, and dreſs;
Merit ſhou'd be for ever plac'd
In judgement, knowledge, wit, and taſte.
For theſe, 'tis own'd, without diſpute,
Alone diſtinguiſh man from brute.
A wealthy, gawdy fool can pair,
At beſt, but for a goodeu als.

A Friend to the Fair ſex.

M.

HISTORICAL AFFAIRS.

TURKY. [381.]

"*London*, *Nov.* 29. Accounts have been received of the violent death of Prince Gregory Gilas, Hofpodar of Moldavia. — Three years being expired, after which this prince was to be reconfirmed in his dignity by the Grand Signor, he fent his youngeft fon to Conftantinople for that purpofe. The young prince met with the moft gracious reception, and obtained a firman (decree) which continued his father's hofpodar; after which he returned home, to give him an account of the fuccefs of his embaffy. In the mean time an officer belonging to the feraglio fet out for Choczim, and pretended that he was going to make fome military regulations there. On his way he ftopped at Jaffy, the capital of Moldavia, attended by about forty Janifaries; and pretended ficknefs. Prince Gregory went to vifit him *incog.* that he might preferve the dignity of his character: he took his phyfician with him, that he might prefcribe for the fick Turk. He was received as he could wifh, and was prefented with coffee and fherbet. After a mutual exchange of compliments, the prince began to talk of bufinefs. Then the Turkifh minifter ordered the attendants out of the room, that he might converfe, as it were, more freely. All withdrew except fome fervants of the Turk; who feized the prince, and ftrangled him. The phyfician, guefling, from the noife and ftruggles he heard, what was going forward, and knowing that his fingle arm oppofed to fo many, could be of no ufe to his maſter, immediately ran away to the palace, to fave the unhappy prince's eldeft fon; which he happily effected. After this bloody fcene had been acted, the Turkifh minifter aſſembled the principal lords then at Jaffy, read to them the fentence figned by the Emperor, and formed a regency, conſiſting of four of their body, to govern the ſtate until further orders ſhould be given. He afterwards, in conſideration of 4000 piaſtres, gave them the body of their late prince: which they buried, after having firſt cauſed a moſt ſolemn ſervice to be performed for the repoſe of his ſoul, in the cathedral church."

"*Vienna*, *Nov.* 19. We hear from Jaffy, that the ſon of the late Hoſpodar of Moldavia, who finiſhed his days ſo tragically, having got together ſome friends and ſervants, purſued the Capigi-Baſchi, who had executed the orders of the Porte on the Prince his father; and that having overtaken him, he put him, and the forty Janiſaries who attended him, to the ſword, and retook his father's treaſure, which the Turkiſh officer was carrying off to Choczim."

SWEDEN. [501.]

"*Stockholm*, *Oct.* 18. We have accounts from Marſtrand, that a rich American family is come to ſettle in that city; who ſay, that many others will follow their example; as even if the Americans ſhould conquer, that country will be agitated by many troubles for a number of years, and inevitably plunged into a ſtate of anarchy."

"*Stockholm*, *Oct.* 28. The American ſhip lately arrived at Marſtrand, hath brought thither a cargo, conſiſting of 36,000 lb. of rice, 25,000 lb. of tobacco, 13,000 lb. of indigo, five cheſts of ſpermaceti candles, 14 bales of cacao, and 700 or 800 lb. of pepper. As the day of ſale of this cargo, which was on the 8th inſt. had been fixed up only at Gottenburg, all the above merchandiſes were ſold there at a very moderate price, and the merchants only of the laſt-mentioned place, purchaſed the whole. The Americans, however, notwithſtanding the ſmall profit of the ſale, appeared quite content with what they received."

UNITED PROVINCES. [447.]

"*Hague*, *Nov.* 15. The States-General have iſſued an ordinance, bearing date the 3d of this month, by which their High Mightineſſes prolong for a year the prohibition of tranſporting all ſorts of warlike ammunition to the colonies of his Britannic Majeſty, under the penalty of a thouſand florins, and confiſcation of both ſhip and cargo."

FRANCE. [555.]

"*Paris*, *Oct.* 16. This day arrived here the grandſon of Dr Franklin, who was on board the Lexington privateer, going with diſpatches to the congreſs, but taken on their paſſage by the Alert cutter, Lieut. Beazely. He ſays, he made his eſcape from the Lexington, on her paſſage from Dover to London, by the aſſiſtance of a Graveſend boat, who landed him at Graveſend. The firſt port, he ſays, they arrived at, was

Dover,

Dover, where he was very kindly received by many friends he found to America. He paſſed, he ſays, for an American doctor, which gave them not any ſuſpicion but that he was a paſſenger."

"*London, Nov.* 6. In conſequence of a publication in all the newſpapers a few weeks ſince, of a ſpurious letter from Dr Franklin and Mr Deane, to Lord Stormont, relating to an exchange of priſoners [501.]; we have received the following intereſting and authentic papers.

"My Lord, Paris, Feb. 23.

Capt. Wickes, of the Repriſal frigate, belonging to the United States of America, has now in his hand near 100 Britiſh ſeamen, priſoners [507.]. He deſires to know, whether an exchange may be made with him for an equal number of American ſeamen now priſoners in England. We take the liberty of propoſing this matter to your Lordſhip, and of requeſting your opinion (if there be no impropriety in your giving it) whether ſuch an exchange will probably be agreed to by your court.

If your people cannot be ſoon exchanged here, they will be ſent to America.

We have the honour to be, with great reſpect, your Lordſhip's moſt obedient humble ſervants,

B. FRANKLIN. S. DEANE."

"My Lord, Paris, April. 3.

In anſwer to a letter which concerns ſome of the moſt material intereſts of humanity, and of the two nations, Great Britain, and the United States of America, now at war, we received the incloſed indecent paper, as coming from your Lordſhip; which we return, for your Lordſhip's more mature conſideration.

B. FRANKLIN. S. DEANE."

N. B. The words of the paper ſent by Lord Stormont, and referred to in the above letter, were, "The King's Ambaſſador receives no applications from rebels, unleſs they come to implore his Majeſty's mercy."

"*Marſeilles, Oct.* 23. The following is a copy of the letter written by the miniſter of the marine department, and ſent to all the ports in France. — "You could not, Gentlemen, be ignorant of the orders ſo often renewed by his Majeſty at the ſittings of the different admiralties in his ports, not to permit the ſale of any prizes made by foreign privateers, or to ſuffer the corſairs and their prizes to remain any longer in the ports, than is abſolutely neceſſary to procure them the proviſions and aſſiſtance that they might want. This prohibition, which ſprings from a principle of faithfully obſerving a treaty once made, ought not to be eluded on any pretence whatever; and it is not without great diſpleaſure, that his Majeſty hears that many illegal methods have been made uſe of to evade the vigilance of his officers, and to buy and ſell the goods belonging to the above-mentioned prizes; and I am charged by the King again to give notice to the chambers of trade, and through them to the merchants, that they ſhall not, directly or indirectly, buy any of the merchandiſes which in any ſhape belong to the prizes brought into any of his ports, on pain of anſwering for it perſonally, and being obliged to return the goods or their value. I deſire you will make theſe intentions of his Majeſty known to the merchants, and at the ſame time, that the King will not permit the leaſt evaſion of his orders to go unpuniſhed; and I am perſuaded, that the merchants will ſhew the utmoſt alacrity to prove their ſubmiſſion to the King's pleaſure. I am alſo to order you, that thoſe who counteract theſe orders be rigorouſly proceeded againſt. And I am further to add, that as the ports of the kingdom are open for the trade of all nations, the merchant-ſhips from North America may be admitted with their cargoes, which they may diſpoſe of, and take in return any merchandiſe which is permitted to be exported, except ammunition, &c. And his Majeſty particularly warns all merchants to avoid the introducing of the American prizes, under pretence of their being merchantmen."

"*L'Orient, Oct.* 23. Four Engliſh ſhips have been ſent in here very lately by the American privateers, and proteſts entered againſt the ſeizure of them."

Mr Peter Liege, in a letter to Meſſ. Long Drake and Long, London, dated, Nantz, Nov. 5. writes, "Gentlemen, I have the pleaſure to acquaint you, that yeſterday the reſtitution of the Engliſh ſhips and cargoes taken by the American privateers, and brought into this port, took place, when they were given up accordingly."

"*London, Nov.* 22. Letters from L'Orient mention, that the three laſt ſhips taken, from the Weſt Indies to London, by the American privateers, and

and carried into that port, had, by order of the French court, been given up to the gentlemen who had arrived there, and had claimed them for the owners in London."

"*Nantz, Nov.* 12. Not a ſingle Engliſh prize has been brought in here ſince the order for the reſtitution; and letters from L'Orient and Port-Louis ſay the ſame."

"*Boulogne, Nov.* 20. On the 16th inſtant, a veſſel, ſuppoſed to be an American privateer, being purſued by two Engliſh cruiſers, ran into this harbour for refuge. The cruiſers continued to fire on her even after ſhe had entered the harbour. Monſ. Champler, the commiſſary of the marine, in revenge for this indignity, ordered a battery, conſiſting of four pieces of cannon, to be fixed on a convenient place at the entrance of the harbour. From this battery ſo briſk a fire was ſerved on the two Engliſh cruiſers, as ſoon obliged them to ſheer off. M. Ternaus, the commander of the artillery, happened to be abſent. As ſoon as the Engliſh cruiſers had thus been compelled to decamp, M. Champler diſpatched an expreſs to the miniſter, with a circumſtantial account of the tranſaction. The following is the anſwer which was returned by M. de Sartine.

"SIR, I laid before the King an account of your conduct. His Majeſty highly approved it. I embrace with pleaſure the opportunity of announcing to you, as a teſtimony of the King's favour, that he is pleaſed to grant you a penſion of five hundred livres, in recompence of your former ſervices, and of your conduct in the late moſt delicate conjuncture. The more deſirous his Majeſty is of preſerving the peace, the more he is diſpoſed to pay attention to thoſe exertions of courage, of vigour, and of diſcernment, which have a tendency to preſerve it. I am &c,

DE SARTINE."

The following is a tranſlation of an order iſſued by the French King, for the ſtoppage of the Newfoundland fiſhery:

BY ORDER OF THE KING.

The captains, maſters, or owners, of all ſhips and veſſels employed in fiſhing on the Banks of Newfoundland, or other adjacent coaſts, are hereby commanded immediately to deſiſt from the buſineſs of their fiſheries, on ſight of this order, which is to be ſignified to them by M. Cornie, Lieutenant in his Majeſty's navy.

And his Majeſty further enjoins all the captains, maſters, and owners, of the veſſels heretofore employed in the fiſheries, to return as ſoon as poſſible to France. And that they may not plead ignorance, a copy of this order ſhall be delivered to them by M. Cornie, ſigned by him, which ſhall be a ſufficient juſtification for their quitting the fiſheries, and returning to France.

LOUIS.

Verſailles, Aug. 24. 1777.

DE SARTINE, Miniſter of the Marine."

"*London, Nov.* 15. Letters from Paris mention, that the Chevalier Grenier had laſt ſummer diſcovered a paſſage from the Iſle of France to the coaſt of Cormandel, by which the route was 800 leagues ſhorter than the common courſe. The new navigation is much ſafer than the old one, and is practicable during the latter monſoon, or from October to April."

"*London, Oct.* 30. The Chevalier [Mademoiſelle] D'Eon is now thoroughly convinced of the difference between the edict of an abſolute prince, and the Magna Charta of a free people. This very extraordinary and ſingular character [502.] had not been long in her native country, before ſhe was ordered to retire to a country-village, where ſhe now reſides, with only the appearance of liberty, as ſhe cannot go beyond certain allotted bounds."

ITALY. [449.]

"*Florence, Oct.* 14. An account has been received from Radicofani, (an ancient town near the confines of the Roman ſtate), that on the 5th of this month a ſevere ſhock of an earthquake had been felt there, and in the adjacent mountains, which had done great damage. Some houſes were thrown down, and the mountains were ſplit, and ſeparated ſo as to render the high-road in ſome places impaſſable; trees were torn up by their roots; and a wall, which ſurrounded a convent of Franciſcan friars, ſunk perpendicularly into the ground. For ſome days before a ſubterraneous noiſe had been heard, which alarmed the inhabitants; many of whom abandoned the town, and lived in tents. The ſame noiſe continued after the ſhock; which, according to the common opinion, indicates an eruption in ſome part of the mountain, where formerly there was a volcano. The Great Duke was at Siena,

ſix poſts diſtant from Radicofani, at the time the earthquake happened. His R. Highneſs immediately ſent perſons thither, by whom he received the above account." *Lond. gaz.*

"*Milan, Oct.* 15. The great work is completed which has been undertaken by ſo many monarchs, of rendering the river Adda navigable from Brivio to the valley, by cutting a canal through mountains and rocks, which has opened an advantageous communication between the lake Come and this city for trade in general, and particularly with the interior part of this duchy."

ENGLAND. [557.]

"*London, Nov.* 5. On Friday laſt the Ducheſs of Glouceſter paid a viſit in private to her Majeſty, and was received with great affection. His Majeſty has alſo ſeen his Royal Brother twice in private ſince his R. Highneſs's return to England, and the greateſt harmony ſubſiſts between them."

A city-committee agreed to the following reſolutions, and ſigned them July 23. 1776.

1. That the annual income of the office of Mayor of this city amounts to 4000l.

2. That the probable receipts ariſing from the ſale of offices, places, &c. for twenty-ſix years paſt, amount upon an average to 531 l. 6 s. 1 d. per ann. and for the laſt ten years to 670 l. per ann.

3. That the probable expences attending the mayoralty of this city amount to 7000 l.

4. That Mr Alderman Wilkes received 4889 l. 6 d. 2 f. and expended 8226 l. 13 s. balance 3337 l. 12 s. 5 d. 2 f.

A petition of the creditors of Mr Alderman Wilkes was preſented to the common council on the 23d of October laſt, praying payment of ſuch of that gentleman's debts as were contracted during his mayoralty; which occaſioned warm debates. The Deputies Judd, Jones, and Leckey, and Meſſ. Merry and Maynard, oppoſed the petition, as a ſhameful attempt to ſtrip the coffers of the corporation; an application erected upon a falſe notion, that becauſe an Alderman of London is unable to diſcharge his debts, it therefore ought to follow, that the money of the city ſhould pay his creditors; it was making a public affair upon an affair merely between the Alderman and the petitioners, and entirely of a private nature, no wiſe involved with the honour of the city, which was quite foreign to the queſtion between Mr Wilkes and his creditors; that to comply with the petition would be opening a door for future endeavours of ſucceeding chief magiſtrates, who ſhould happen to be in ſimilar circumſtances with the Alderman, to diſburthen themſelves of their incumbrances, at the expence of the corporation, and conſequently tend in the end to impoveriſh and reduce the opulency of the chamber; and that if his circumſtances were ſo deſperate, the party who puſhed him forward were thoſe who ought to relieve him. The other gentlemen conſidered the magiſtrate, and not the man; and ſaid, in that light it behoved the city of London to extricate him from thoſe difficulties into which he had been lulled by their frequent tokens of approbation, in electing him Alderman, Sheriff, and Lord Mayor; that the inſolvent ſtate of his affairs was not unknown to the citizens, who ought not to behold with indifference a man enthralled with perplexities, to whom they were ſo much indebted for the noble ſtand he had made againſt arbitrary power, who had given the death-wound to general warrants, and who in every inſtance had ſhewn himſelf a firm friend to the rights of the people: Mr Wilkes had been brought forth by his conſtituents into the wide theatre of honour and diſtinction, which had fixed him in a labyrinth, from whence he has a right to expect they would lead him, and enable him to throw off the ſhackles of embarraſſment that at preſent ſurrounds him. The queſtion being put, and ſeconded, "Whether the petition ſhould lie upon the table?" the Lord Mayor declared the ſhew of hands to be in the affirmative; but a diviſion being demanded by the friends of Mr Wilkes, there appeared to be ſeven Aldermen, ſeventy-one Commoners, and the two Tellers, to throw out the petition; and to negative the queſtion, one Alderman, ſeventy Commoners, and two Tellers, ſo that there was a majority of ſeven againſt Mr Wilkes. The Aldermen who voted to lay the petition upon the table were the Lord Mayor-Elect, Alſop, Kennet, Oliver, Hart, Pugh, and Clark. On the contrary Mr Alderman Bull.

A motion was made in the common council, Nov. 19. by Mr Samuel Thorpe, That Mr Chamberlain do pay to John Wilkes,

Wilkes, Esq; Alderman, 500 l. per ann. during the pleasure of this court, for his past services; which, upon a division, passed in the negative, 12 Aldermen and 96 Commoners against the motion, and 4 Aldermen and 69 Commoners for it.

A motion was then made by Mr Merry, and seconded, That it is the opinion of this court, That the granting any annuity to John Wilkes, Esq; Alderman of the ward of Farringdon-Without, or the paying any of that gentleman's debts out of the city's cash, whether contracted in his mayoralty or not, would be an improper application thereof, and a most dangerous precedent. And the previous question being put, Whether that question be now put? the same was resolved in the affirmative; and the question being put, the Lord-Mayor declared the same was carried in the affirmative; and a division being demanded, and granted, there appeared 12 Aldermen and 93 Commoners for the affirmative, and 4 Aldermen and 70 Commoners for the negative: whereupon the same was declared to be resolved in the affirmative.

A very numerous meeting of the citizens of Bristol, friends of Messr. Cruger and Burke, was held in that city, to commemorate their success at the late election [xxxvi. 553. 716.]. They were honoured with the company of Mr Cruger, and several gentlemen from the country; and the following letter from Mr Burke to the stewards was read.

"Gentlemen, Beaconsfield, Nov. 1.

YOU will be so good to present my best and most affectionate compliments to our friends who are to meet on the 4th of this month, and assure them of my real concern, that my affairs, and the advanced and unexpected season of the year, will not permit me to make one amongst them in the good-natured and cheerful enjoyment of our annual festival.

The 4th of November can never return without giving me a pleasing sense of the high honour which I received on that day. It renews in my memory the obligations which I have to so many worthy friends; and, what is better, it revives and refreshes in my mind those principles for which I originally was indebted for your favour. I wish, that on both sides we may never forget them, —you, the things you committed to our trust, and we the importance of the trust which we received. A season somewhat cloudy may try our patience and perseverance for a time: but a day, I trust, will come, when we may act with a little more success, because with a little more assistance from several of our countrymen; from whom, by mistake, and misconception of our meaning, we have been divided; and when a bitter experience has taught to several persons that prudence and moderation which they would not submit to learn from reason and foresight.

But whether the disposition of the conductors or abettors of the present measures shall alter or not, I trust that you will always find me upon my old ground, —a well-wisher to the peace of my country, and a real friend to the liberties of all parts of it, according to the best notions which so limited a capacity as mine is capable of forming on this great subject. I will continue to act as I have acted hitherto, and in concurrence with those whom an uniformity of principles and characters have united in the public cause. I have no doubt, that I shall meet my friends in parliament animated with their ancient sentiments, and ready to take such a part, either of vigilant observation, or vigorous action, as the time and circumstances shall require from known experienced men, who form their principles on the truth of things, and direct their conduct by their opportunities.

Our task is difficult. We shall certainly do our best. But when circumstances admit your assistance, you ought not solely to rely on us. For be assured, that it is not members of parliament, nor men in any other public capacity, which have made you or any other people safe and free, if they have been wanting to themselves. Believe me, it is a great truth, that there never was, for any long time, a corrupt representative of a virtuous people; or a mean, huggish, or careless people, that ever had a good government in any form.

The gentlemen will permit me to renew my thanks to them on this day, so happy and honourable to me, and which (on the whole, and with their favourable and indulgent construction) will, I trust, not be disgraceful to them. I shall always indeed be in want of great indulgence from them on account of the weakness of my abilities; but I shall entitle myself to it, by my good intentions. The city of Bristol may very easily find a representative more knowing and abler;

but none I believe more faithful or more grateful. I am, with the higheſt eſteem, &c. ED. BURKE."

The ſtate-lottery began drawing, at Guildhall, on the 17th of November.

By an order of council of Nov. 7. the prohibition to export, or carry coaſtwiſe, gunpowder, ſaltpetre, or any ſort of arms or ammunition [451.], is continued for three months from the 23d of November; except in thoſe caſes where (for the benefit and advantage of trade, and for the uſe and defence of ſhips trading to foreign parts, and of the tranſports and victualling-veſſels employed in his Majeſty's ſervice) his Majeſty, by his orders in council of Oct. 13. & 27. and Nov. 6. & 22. 1775, of Feb. 5. & 19. and Aug. 23. and Sept. 25 1776, and of April 16. Aug. 13. and Oct. 3. & 10. 1777, has granted permiſſion to export or carry coaſtwiſe ſuch articles, under certain conditions, in ſaid orders mentioned.

"*Portſmouth*, *Nov.* 27. This morning arrived at Spithead his Majeſty's ſhip Romney, Adm. Montague, from Newfoundland; and the Charming Sally, a ſtoreſhip, Capt. Wheatly, with prize-goods, taken by the fleet under the command of Adm. Montague."

SCOTLAND. [566.]

The high court of juſticiary appointed the Lords Juſtice-Clerk and Kennet to go the northern circuit laſt autumn, the Lords Auchinleck and Kames the ſouthern, and the Lords Hailes and Gardenſton the weſtern; — and the courts to ſit down, at Aberdeen, Sept. 24.; Inverneſs, Oct. 3.; and Perth, Oct. 11.; at Jedburgh, Sept. 18.; Dumfries, Sept. 25.; and Air, Oct. 2.; and at Inverary, Sept. 24; Glaſgow, Oct. 1.; and Stirling, Oct. 7.

The moſt material trials were theſe.

At Glaſgow, Hugh Shadden, journeyman-maſon in Glaſgow, indicted for killing George Rob weaver, on the ſtreet of Glaſgow, was found guilty of culpable homicide, and was ſentenced to be whipt through the ſtreets of Glaſgow, and baniſhed to the plantations for life. — John Dewar, apprentice to the Cordel print-field company, near Dumbarton, was indicted for feloniouſly breaking into an apartment belonging to the printfield, and carrying off thence a pocket-book, containing a number of receipts for making up colours, (which were kept ſecret by the company), with a view to make unlawful gain, to the prejudice of the proprietors in their pecuniary intereſt. The jury found it proven, that the pannel, by unlawful means, got poſſeſſion of the pocket-book and receipts libelled; that he was preſent at theſe receipts being copied; and that he took the copies with him, with the view of receiving benefit from them. The Lords ſentenced him to pay 40 l. Sterling in name of damages and expences, to be impriſoned fourteen days, and to be baniſhed the ſhires of Lanerk and Dumbarton for three years. — Dougal Stewart, an apprentice to the ſame company, was indicted for a crime of the ſame nature: but the diet againſt him was deſerted *pro loco et tempore*: and he was recommitted, but afterwards admitted to bail. — Janet Hiſlop, indicted for child-murder, was, upon her petition, and the advocate depute's conſent, on account of ſome favourable circumſtances in her caſe, baniſhed to the plantations for life.

At Stirling, Lord Hailes judge, Marion White, from Kinroſs, indicted for childmurder, was found guilty, and ſentenced to be hanged, at Stirling, on the 21ſt of November, and her body to be diſſected and anatomized. She was executed accordingly. — [A correſpondent aſks, whether the appointment of the aſſembly 1762 [xxiv. 280.], That the act 1690, *anent murthering of children*, ſhould be read at leaſt twice a-year from the pulpit of every pariſh-church in Scotland, be ſtrictly obſerved? and whether any man, who, in face of ſuch an appointment, neglects to do what is preſcribed as a mean of prevention, can fail to reproach himſelf when he ſees the continued frequency of this unnatural crime? — He wiſhes, that ſome able caſuiſt would, with all the acuteneſs he can, explain the nature of this crime; and ſhow, whether it be juſt to impute the whole of the guilt to the unhappy woman, without placing any part of it to the door of the father, who was at leaſt *verſans in illicito*, perhaps guilty of force, in bringing the wretched mother to ſhame, the covering of which reſtrained her from making the diſcoveries required by law; and he recommends what was formerly propoſed [xxiv. 338.], that every unhappy woman condemned for this crime, ſhould, by order of the court that paſſes ſentence, be exhorted by

by a miniſter, in preſence of a magiſtrate, not only to make a confeſſion of her own guilt, but likewiſe a full diſcovery of the partner of her folly, with all the aggravating circumſtances that can with truth be laid to his charge, and that, after her execution, this ſhould be authentically publiſhed, with the name of the magiſtrate and miniſter ſubſcribed; ſo that a man who by the gratification of his luſt, has been the occaſion of ſuch direful guilt and miſery, might be aſhamed to ſhow his face. — With reſpect to the crime, our correſpondent obſerves, that againſt innocence it is not in human nature, depraved as it is, to have malice, hatred, or ill will; which yet are eſſential to the conſtitution of murder in common caſes.]

At Inverneſs, Major Alexander Roſs of Culroſſie was tried for the murder of William Gordon ſhoemaker in Tain, in a ſcuffle that happened at that place in July laſt. The jury, all in one voice, found the pannel not guilty; on which he was abſoilzied, and diſmiſſed from the bar. — William Crichton, merchant in Stornaway, in the iſland of Lewis, was tried for giving poiſon to Margaret Gillies, his late ſervant, whereby ſhe died, as alſo her brother, who had taken part of the meat in which the poiſon was conveyed. The jury, all in one voice, found the libel not proven; on which the pannel was abſoilzied, and diſmiſſed from the bar. — Archibald Macdowal, late in Glenluce, indicted for murder, was outlawed for not appearing. — Eliſabeth Grant, indicted for childmurder, petitioned for baniſhment; and as very favourable circumſtances appeared for her, the advocate-depute conſented, and ſhe was baniſhed Scotland for life.

At Perth, George Thomſon, ſlether, in Bridge-end of Tay, indicted for the murder of Thomas Kennedy, tailor, of the ſame place, was outlawed for not appearing.

On a petition from a reſpectable number of heads of families for a chapel of eaſe at Dunfermline [278.], the preſbytery, Oct. 28. granted the deſire of the petition.

By an advertiſement in the Edinburgh papers of Sept. 14. the maſter tailors in and about that city, gave notice, that they had entered into an obligation, "conform to regulations made by the court of ſeſſion," not to give more wages to any of their journeymen than one ſhilling a-day; and that, if any of their number ſhould, after the 26th of that month, tranſgreſs that regulation, either directly or indirectly, they would be proſecuted. — A warm anſwer was made by the journeymen. — An application was afterwards made by the deacons and boxmaſters of the ſeveral corporations of maſter tailors in and about Edinburgh to the juſtices of peace for the county, which was followed by anſwers for the journeymen, replies, and duplies; all which were remitted to a committee; on whoſe report, the juſtices, in their quarter-ſeſſions, Nov. 12. pronounced an act, finding, "That the journeymen-tailors keeping Slatehouſes, or Houſes of Call for journeymen-tailors out of work, had been attended with inconveniencies to the lieges and the maſter-tailors, and, if not put under proper regulations, would ſtill continue to be ſo. To remedy which, it was enacted, 1. That the perſon by whom ſuch houſes of call are or ſhall be kept, ſhall be obliged, when required by any journeyman-tailor out of work, to put his name on the ſlate or liſt, for payment of a penny, and no more; 2. That the ſlate-keepers ſhall be obliged to give, inſtantly when required, inſpection of the ſlate, or liſt of journeymen out of work, to any maſter-tailor who ſhall deſire the ſame, on payment of one penny for each inſpection, and no more; 3. That any maſter-tailor inſpecting ſaid liſt, and paying a penny as above, ſhall be at full liberty to take into his employment, and engage, any journeyman whoſe name is upon the ſlate or liſt, he chuſes; 4. That every journeyman whoſe name ſtands on the ſlate or liſt, ſhall be bound to go and work with any maſter who offers to employ him, and give him any ſum not exceeding one ſhilling per day; 5. That no maſter-tailor within the ſaid ſhire ſhall give higher wages, directly or indirectly, to their journeymen, than one ſhilling per day, or the hour of recels for breakfaſt, under the penalty of forty ſhillings Sterling, *toties quoties*; 6. That all ſlate-keepers and journeymen-tailors within the ſaid ſhire who ſhall not conform to the above regulations, and tranſgreſs thereagainſt, in any of the particulars above-mentioned, ſhall incur a fine of ten ſhillings, *toties quoties*; and, laſtly, That all tranſgreſſions againſt the ſaid act ſhall be proſecuted ſummarily, and the fines incurred forfeited and paid to the informer or proſecutor."

Mar-

MARRIAGES.

Oct. 30. At London, Mr Anſtruther, a wine-merchant, to Lady Frances Manners. [328.]

Nov. 19. At Brachead, Mr James Moody, one of the miniſters of Perth, to Miſs Betty Houiſon, eldeſt daughter of John Houiſon of Brachead, Eſq;

22. At Gartymore, county of Sutherland, John Gray, Eſq; of Jamaica, to Miſs Jeſſy Sutherland, daughter of Major George Sutherland deceaſed.

26. At London, Lord Viſcount Croſbie, ſon of the Earl of Glandore in Ireland, to Miſs Sackville, daughter of Lord George Germaine.

BIRTHS.

"*The Queen's Palace, St James's Park, Nov.* 4. Laſt night, about nine o'clock, the Queen was happily delivered of a princeſs. The Archbiſhop of Canterbury, ſeveral Lords of the Privy Council, and the Ladies of the Bedchamber, were preſent." *Lond. gaz.*—— [*P. S.*] In the evening of Dec. 1. the young princeſs was baptized, in the great council-chamber, by the Archbiſhop of Canterbury, and named SOPHIA: Sponſors, Prince Auguſtus of Saxe-Gotha, repreſented by the Earl of Hertford; the Ducheſs of Brunſwick, repreſented by the Counteſs of Hertford; and the Ducheſs of Mecklenburg-Schwerin, repreſented by the Counteſs-dowager of Effingham.

16. At her Ladyſhip's ſeat of Gibſide, the Counteſs-dowager of Strathmore, wife of Andrew Robinſon Stoney Bowes, Eſq; [54. 112.], of a daughter.

16. At London, the Counteſs of Thanet, of a ſon.

28. The Counteſs-dowager of Dumfries and Stair, wife of the Hon. Alexander Gordon, Advocate, of a ſon.

DEATHS.

In *February* laſt, at Bengal, in the ſervice of the Eaſt-India company, Archibald Edmonſtone, ſon of Governor Edmonſtone.

Aug. 16. At Newport, Rhode-iſland, Capt. Robert Rannie, of the 54th regiment.

Sept. 8. At Fort-Miller, on Lake George, Capt. Walter Mitchelſon of the artillery.

Oct. 27. At Barcelona, Prince Maſerano, late his Catholic Majeſty's ambaſſador to the court of Great Britain.

Nov. 3. At London, aged 100, Mr Bielby, formerly ſteward of a man of war.

3. At Capprinton caſtle, Ayrſhire, in the 82d year of his age, Sir John Cunninghame of Capprinton, Bt, one of the beſt ſcholars, and beſt-bred men of his time; leaving, by his wife, Lady Betty Montgomery, eldeſt daughter of Alexander, 9th Earl of Eglintoun, and his third wife, Sufanna, daughter of Sir Archibald Kennedy of Colzean, Bt, two ſons, William, his ſucceſſor, and Alexander, an officer in the army. — Sir John Cunninghame was ſon of Sir William Cunninghame of Capprinton, Bt, and Dame Janet Dick of Preſtonfield; which laſt family is repreſented by his brother Sir Alexander Dick, Bt. He was grandſon of one of the greateſt lawyers that Scotland ever produced, viz. Sir John Cunninghame; whom Sir George Mackenzie has celebrated in *Characteres quorundam Advocatorum*, and Biſhop Burnet in two paſſages of his hiſtory. — He lived in learned retirement at his caſtle of Capprinton, a ſeat which is ſaid to have belonged to the great Sir William Wallace, was old even in his time, and has been tranſmitted to the Cunninghames by an alliance with one of his family. What is very remarkable, he read over Homer and Arioſto once every year, for more than thirty years of the latter part of his life. — He was bleſſed with conſtant good health, and his faculties were freſh to the very laſt: the only appearance of decay about him was a failure in his ſight, which he ſupplied, by having a reader to attend upon him. On the evening in which he died, he was ſitting after ſupper with his uſual cheerfulneſs, and being ſuddenly ſeized with a fit of apoplexy, he reclined upon his chair, and calmly expired.

3. At Wells in Somerſetſhire, Peter Taylor, Eſq; member for Portſmouth.

At the caſtle of Thurles in Ireland, Thomas Matthew, Eſq; of Thomaſtown. By his death his only ſon and heir Francis Matthew, Eſq; knight of the ſhire, and governor of the county of Tipperary, comes into poſſeſſion of one of the largeſt and moſt ancient landed properties in that kingdom, amounting to upwards of 30,000 l. per ann.

4. At Bath, aged 80, Francis Gwynn, of Ford-Abbey in Devon, Eſq; late member for the city of Wells, the only ſurvivor of the Rt Hon. Francis Gwynn, who was ſecretary at war to Q. Anne.

5. At Simſtone, Lancaſhire, Suſanna Eviſon, aged 108.

7. At her apartments in Gray's-inn lane, London, Mrs Jane Macculloch, aged 101.

7. At Edinburgh, the Hon. Mrs Helen Nicholas Murray, daughter of the deceaſed David Viſcount of Stormont, aunt of the preſent Viſcount of Stormont, and ſiſter of the Earl of Mansfield. [613.]

11. At Coldinghame, Lady Home of Manderſton.

12. At Sir Laurence Dundas's houſe, in Moor-park, near London, whither he had gone on a viſit, John Blackwood, Eſq; of Soho-ſquare, London.

13. At Burton upon Trent, [illegible], aged 112 years. He had been a [illegible] the ſervice of K. William, [illegible]

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in that of Q. Anne, under the Duke of Marlborough.

14. At St Andrew's, the Rev. Mr Thomas Tullideph, principal of the united colleges of St Salvador and St Leonard.

At his ſeat at Stoke Edith in Herefordſhire, Lord Foley.

12. At Seſſay, near Thirſk in Yorkſhire, John Houſeman, a labouring man, aged 111.

19. At London, aged 78, Mr William Bowyer, printer.—A man of profound learning.—By his will, he bequeaths to the Stationers company, in truſt, ſuch a ſum as will purchaſe 2000 l. three per cent. reduced Bank-annuities, the yearly profits thereof to be divided, for ever, equally among three printers, compoſitors or preſſmen, to be choſen by the company, of ſixty years of age or upwards, for their reſpective lives, to be paid half-yearly, hoping that ſuch as ſhall be moſt deſerving will be preferred; —and whereas he had before given his ſon 3000 l. four per cent. conſolidated annuities, on condition he ſhould marry with conſent of his executors, he now bequeaths the dividends and intereſt of that ſum, till ſuch marriage take place, to be divided equally between ſix other printers, compoſitors or preſſmen, as aforeſaid, in manner as aforeſaid; and if his ſon ſhall die unmarried, or ſhall marry without ſuch conſent, then he bequeaths the ſaid 3000 l. to the company, the yearly profits thereof to be divided, for ever, equally amongſt ſix other ſuch old printers, compoſitors or preſſmen, for their reſpective lives, to be qualified, choſen, and paid, in manner as aforeſaid. "It has long [continues he] been to me matter of concern, that ſuch numbers are put apprentices as compoſitors without any ſhare of ſchool-learning, who ought to have the greateſt: in hopes of remedying this, I give and bequeath to the ſaid company of ſtationers, ſuch a ſum of money as will purchaſe one thouſand pounds three per cent. reduced Bank annuities, for the uſe of one journeyman compoſitor, ſuch as ſhall hereafter be deſcribed; with this ſpecial truſt, That the maſter, wardens, and aſſiſtants, ſhall pay the dividends and produce thereof half-yearly to ſuch compoſitor: The ſaid maſter, wardens, and aſſiſtants, of the ſaid company, ſhall nominate for this purpoſe a compoſitor who is a man of good life and converſation, who ſhall uſually frequent ſome place of public worſhip every Sunday, unleſs prevented by ſickneſs, and ſhall not have worked on a newſpaper or magazine for four years at leaſt before ſuch nomination, nor ſhall ever afterwards whilſt he holds this annuity, which may be for life if he continues a journeyman: he ſhall be able to read and conſtrue Latin, and at leaſt to read Greek fluently with accents; of which he ſhall bring a teſtimonial from the rector of St Martin's, Ludgate, for the time being: I could wiſh that he ſhall have been brought up piouſly and virtuouſly, if it be poſſible, at Merchant-Taylors, or ſome other public ſchool, from ſeven years of age till he is full ſeventeen, and then to ſerve ſeven years faithfully as a compoſitor, and work ſeven years more as a journeyman, as I would not have this annuity beſtowed on any one under thirty one years of age: if after he is choſen he ſhall behave ill, let him be turned out, and another be choſen in his ſtead. And whereas it may be many years before a compoſitor may be found that ſhall exactly anſwer the above deſcription, and it may at ſometimes happen that ſuch a one cannot be found, I would have the dividends in the mean time applied to ſuch perſon as the maſter, wardens, and aſſiſtants, ſhall think approaches neareſt to what I have deſcribed."

20. At her father's houſe in the county of Roſs, Miſs Peggy Macculloch of Glaſſulich.

22. At London, John Weſt, Earl Delaware, Viſcount Cantaloupe, Baron Delaware, a lieutenant-general, and colonel of the firſt troop of horſe-guards.

23. In the new church of Glaſgow, in time of divine ſervice, one John Croſſe, a wright, aged 86.

24. At London, aged 75, Stephen Blizard, Eſq; of Antigua, formerly ſpeaker of the aſſembly, colonel of the militia, and chief juſtice of the court of common pleas, of that iſland.

25. At Marytown, near Montroſe, Mr James Beattie miniſter of that parish.

28. At Perth, Alexander Simpſon, Eſq; late provoſt of that borough.

29. At Edinburgh, Archibald Tod of Hayfield, Eſq;

PREFERMENTS.

From the London Gazette.

The King has been pleaſed,

Nov. 8. to appoint David Armſtrong, Advocate, to be Sheriff depute of the ſhire of Dumfries, and

Mr Alexander Orme, to be one of the Six Ordinary Clerks of Seſſion,

—both in the room of Mr William Kirkpatrick, deceaſed.

— 15. to preſent Mr Thomas Gordon to be Miniſter of Logie-Coldſtone, in the preſbytery of Kincardine O'Neil, and county of Aberdeen, vacant by the death of Mr John Macmacs.

— 25. to grant unto the Duke of Hamilton, the offices of Keeper of his Majeſty's palace of Linlithgow and the caſtle of Blackneſs.

— 26. to appoint Abel Moyſey, Eſq; Second

eond Juſtice of the counties of Brecon, Glamorgan, and Radnor, in the room of William Whitaker, Eſq; deceaſed. Mr Moyſey kiſſed the King's hand on this appointment, Nov. 21.

—29. to confer the honour of Knighthood on John Skynner, Eſq; who had, at the ſame time, the honour of kiſſing his Majeſty's hand on being appointed Lord Chief Baron of the court of Exchequer, [in the room of Sir Sydney Smythe, who retires with a penſion.]

—to appoint Francis Buller, Eſq; to be Second Juſtice of Cheſter, in the room of Sir John Skynner.

The Lord Lieutenant of Ireland has been pleaſed,

Nov. 5. 7. to appoint Murrough Earl of Inchiquin to be Governor of the county of Clare, and a Truſtee of the Linen Manufacture, in the room of the late Earl of Inchiquin.

—19. to appoint Richard Pennefather, Eſq; a Governor of the county of Tipperary.

War-office, Oct. 21. 1777.

[*For Subalterns ſee our covers.*]

20th reg. of foot: Aaron Abraham Baker, (Clerk) to be Chaplain, vice Thomas Dade.

Lt-Col. Arthur Brown to be Colonel in the Army.

Lt-Col. Archibald M'Nab to be Colonel in the Army.

Maj. William Roberts to be Lieutenant-Colonel in the Army.

From other papers, &c.

Andrew Stuart of Craigthorn, Eſq; member for the county of Lanerk, Lord Rector of the univerſity of Glaſgow, unanimouſly elected Nov. 15.

The Earl of Carliſle, Maſter of the Horſe to the Queen, in the room of the Earl Waldegrave, who reſigned.

"*London, Oct.* 25. The little difference ſubſiſting between Sir Guy Carleton and the court is entirely ſettled. It aroſe from a miſtaken punctilio on the ſide of the former, which is now cleared up to that gallant officer's ſatisfaction. In conſequence of which, we are told, that Gen. Haldimand, who was appointed to the government of Quebec [509], and at Portſmouth ready to imbark, has been recalled.

Yeſterday Gen. Haldimand was at court, and had a conference with his Majeſty. All his ſtores and baggage have been relanded, and his departure poſtponed till next ſpring. Sir Guy Carleton is to continue at Quebec to take care of the affairs of that province till his ſucceſſor arrives, which, it is ſaid, will not be till next ſummer."

Alterations in, or additions to, the liſt of Britiſh ſhips of war, now in commiſſion [456], *by* R. R. *dated, Edinburgh, Nov.* 27. 1777.

Ships.	*Guns.*	*Commanders.*
Sultan	74	Capt. J. Wheelock
Ruſſell	74	Ed. Le Cras
Fame	74	S. Colby
Shrewſbury	74	J. L. Roſs
Grafton	74	And. Wilkinſon
Europa	64	Tim. Edwards
Panther	60	J. Harvey
Minerva	32	J. Stot
Ariel	32	J. Jackſon
Aurora	32	Ja. Cumming
Proſerpine	28	Ev. Sutton
Huſſar	28	Ell. Salter
Boſton	28	W. Dudingſtone
Deal Caſtle	24	—— Parker
Fowey	24	Hon. J. Tollemache
Hound	16	Joſ. Nunn
Cameleon	16	Lieut. J. Douglas
Cupid	16	Wm Carlyon
Porcupine	16	
Druid	14	J. Bouchier
Alert cutter	10	J. Bazely
Speedwell	8	Wm Denne
Oſtrich		P. Rainier

Store ſhips armed for War.

Ships.	*Guns.*	*Commanders.*
Leviathan	32	Joſ. Tathwell
Nabob	20	If Vaillant
Greenwich	20	Chr. Rigby
Dromedary	20	Wm Lockhart

Prices of grain at Haddington, Dec. 12.

	Beſt.	*Second.*	*Third.*
Wheat,	20s. 0d.	18s. 6d.	17s. 0d.
Bear,	14s. 0d.	13s. 0d.	12s. 0d.
Oats,	12s. 0d.	11s. 0d.	10s. 0d.
Peaſe,	11s. 6d.	10s. 8d.	9s. 6d.

Edinburgh, Dec. 19. Oat-meal, 10d. Bear-meal, 6d. Peaſe meal, 6d.

The Edinburgh bill of burials for November 1777.

Within the city	Males 16	36	52.	Decr. 7.
	Fem. 20			
In the Weſt-kirk-yard	Males 10	16		
	Fem. 6			

Age.			*N°*
Under		2	16
Between	2	& 5	6
	5	& 10	3
	10	& 20	4
	20	& 30	2
	30	& 40	6
	40	& 50	3
	50	& 60	4
	60	& 70	3
	70	& 80	4
	80	& 90	1
	90	& 100	0

Diſeaſes.	*N°*
Aged	5
Aſthma	3
Bowelhive	1
Conſumption	12
Chincough	1
Childbed	1
Dropſy	1
Fever	10
Killed by a horſe	1
Meaſles	3
Mortification	1
Scurvy	1
Smallpox	4
Stillborn	5
Teething	3